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THURSDAY MARCH 21ST, 2019

New dog controls in the Vale - see the full story on page 8.

Cowbridge Town Hall clock will stop to advance! Find out why on page 3.

Lloyd and Louis are closing in on world record

Lloyd Collier (left) and Louis Snellgrove have covered over 20,000km so far in their world record attempt.

A FORMER Cowbridge pupil, inspired by the memory of his late uncle, is more than two thirds through a cycling world record attempt.

Lloyd Collier (29) from Pontyclun and Louis Snellgrove (31) from Leeds are attempting the fastest circumnavigation of the globe by tandem bicycle and raising funds for brain and spinal research. The two men work as emergency and helicopter rescue doctors in Australia.

Lloyd told The GEM: "We are currently in Tenille, Florida. We have cycled 20,600km to this point and are still on track for the world record.

"The USA is the 22nd country we have been through in seven months. We now have just over 8,000km to go."

The two men set off from Australia in August last year and went to China and then Mongolia. They travelled across Europe to Gibraltar and crossed into Africa. From there they went to the USA. The last country they visit is New Zealand.

Lloyd said: "We have encountered many trials and tribulations on our journey, including being hit by a truck on our first day, being robbed at knife point in the Gobi desert, coming face to face with a Siberian brown bear in the Russian wilderness and being knocked off our bicycle by a selfie-taking motorcyclist in India."

But what has remained uppermost in his mind is what inspired him to take on the epic journey in the first place.

He said: "My Uncle Alan was confined to a wheelchair following a spinal injury at the age of 29 – the same age that I am now."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Gateway Club's annual get-together is a great success

THE Cowbridge Gateway Monday Club's 41st annual dinner was celebrated at The Bear Hotel on March 11.

A spokeswoman said: "We were delighted to welcome the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Cllr Terry Williams and Mayoress Mrs Carol Williams; Mr Byron Evans, president of Llantwit Major with Cowbridge Lions; Mr Michael Long, president of Cowbridge Rotary and Mrs Carol Long; Mr Lindsey Preece, Master of the Emerald Lodge No 5907; Rev Heather Weddell, Minister of the United Free Church and members, parents, friends and volunteers.

"Our members' chairperson for the year is Miss Emily Morgan, a very vocal and enthusiastic young lady and she was assisted by Mr Byron Evans, with thanks being expressed to the various organisations who have assisted the club financially over the past year, including Cowbridge Rotary, Llantwit Major with Cowbridge Lions, Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council, Waitrose, Bailey Thomas Charitable Trust and the Principality Building Society.

"During the course of the evening the club was presented with cheques from Cowbridge Rotary, Llantwit Major with Cowbridge Lions and the Emerald Lodge."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

See more pictures from MIKE WILCOCK On page 4.

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READERS' LETTERS

Road service is deteriorating at waste tip

ON Saturday, March 9 I went to the skips at Llandow with my son driving the car.

I have not been since November and could not believe the deterioration of the road. If I had been driving I would have turned back.

The question I want to ask is have any of the Vale councillors visited the access road to check on it recently? Did they not notice the dreadful route users have to take?

If my car is damaged who do I claim off? The land is private, so will the Vale Council pay as I am travelling to their amenity site and I pay council tax?

I am sure I am not the first person to ask these questions and they wonder why there is so much fly-tipping in the Vale.

Mrs JE Davies, Boverton

The GEM asked the Vale Council to comment on this issue, which has been a concern of Vale residents for quite some time.

A council spokesperson said: "The household waste recycling centre at Llandow is operated by a private contractor and is located on private land. As a result, the access road is not part of the adopted highway network and so not owned or maintained by the council.

"We are, however, well aware of the longstanding issues with accessing the site. As part of a review of how waste and recycling is managed in the Vale, the council is currently considering the future of the Llandow site and the possibility of moving the service elsewhere. The issue of access will be a key consideration in any decision taken on the site's future."

'More to council tax rise than meets the eye'

GEM readers may have noticed that although Vale council tax has risen by "only" 4.9 per cent, the police charge has increased by 10 per cent and the Cowbridge charge by 12 per cent; that is 6 per cent overall.

While writing, may I use your columns to invite any Vale councillor responsible for the decision to tell us why Fields in Trust status has been refused for the Physic Garden, when three sites in Llantwit have been approved? Perhaps we had better not hold our collective breath.

R Bradshaw, Cowbridge.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Ramblers enjoy border walk and bid a fond farewell to Auntie Mina

A GROUP of seven walkers were lured out to join Su G leading Penarth and District Ramblers while others were glued to the television to watch Scotland play Wales in the Six Nations.

Beginning from the pretty village of Skenfrith, with its ruined castle perched on the banks of the River Monnow, they headed uphill past the Bell Inn, crossing Coedanghred Hill and fields before descending gradually to the valley bottom to walk the banks of the River Monnow which for much of its journey southwards, follows the border with Herefordshire.

A climb brought them up through woodland past Blackmoor Farm to Tregate Bridge, an ancient river crossing guarded by a lovely old stone bridge and back into fields with views towards Tregate Castle on the English side of the river.

Crossing to the quiet hamlet of Maypole, some road walking led northwards to St Maughan's Green, before they veered west to the isolated Church of St Maughan, which stands above the Monnow Valley, for their lunch break.

By quiet lane and farm track they made their way towards Crossway before re-entering fields for the descent via Norton back to Skenfrith village prior to the journey home.

Mina Fairfax.

It was sad to hear the news that Mina Fairfax, known affectionately to the group as 'Auntie,' had passed away at the grand age of 100.

Mina became a group member in her mid-70s following the passing of her beloved husband Arthur, proving that you are never too old to try new things. Her infectious personality combined with her knowledge of the countryside, farming, plants, flowers, herbs and remedies and stories of the 'good old days' soon gained her popularity.

She had a very modern outlook on life and profound wisdom and when the group first formed, hosted a garden party at her home in Peterswell Road to raise much-needed funds.

Her notorious baking didn't go amiss either, and her rucksack was always jammed full of extra sandwiches, home-baked Welsh cakes and other delicious goodies so no-one would go hungry.

The last time Mina took part in a group activity was back in June 2010 when her daughter Janet accompanied her to a group reunion in Wenvoe, as part of the Ramblers 75th year and it was so good to share memories and see her looking so well.

Our thoughts are with her family at this sad time, but be assured whenever the name of 'Auntie' is mentioned, it evokes truly happy memories of times spent with this very special and much-loved lady.

On March 23, meet at 8.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an historic 12-mile moderate walk from Wotton-under-Edge in Gloucestershire: contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

On 24 March, meet at 9am at Cogan for a mountain walk taking in Cribarth, the Llech Gorge and Craig y Nos; contact Robin on 029 2051 4051.

For up to date information, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or follow on Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

Joy Strangward

What's on and where

A Rolls-Royce talk

RHOOSE and District History Society is hosting a talk by Roger James entitled 'When Rolls met Royce'.

The event takes place on Friday, March 29 (7.30pm) in the rear hall of Rhoose Community Centre, Stewart Road; 50p children, £1 adults.

Cowbridge History Society

THE society's next lecture of the season will be at 7.30pm on April 5 in the Lesser Hall of the Town Hall, Cowbridge.

Gareth Thomas will talk on the topic 'Iolo Who?'

For more informtaion please visit cowbridgehistorysociety.org.

Valeways guided walks

ON Wednesday, March 27 at 10.30am the Coffee Shop Strollers of Cosmeston meet at the country park visitor centre.

The same day at 2.30pm the Coffee Shop Strollers of Llantwit Major will meet at the town hall car park in Llantwit Major.

On Thursday, March 28 meet at 10am at the Sportsman's Rest in Peterston super Ely (CF5 6LH) for a Railway or Royalist? walk of seven miles.

Councillor is dismissed in budget fallout

A VALE of Glamorgan cabinet member has been sacked from the council's ruling body over his vote on the council's budget.

Cllr Gordon Kemp was dismissed from the cabinet by council leader John Thomas after abstaining from voting for the authority's budget. He has told the Local Democracy Reporting Service he is "disappointed" about being sacked, as the cabinet member for social care, health and leisure, but is not currently considering launching a leadership challenge.

Cllr Kemp, a former leader of the authority, said: "There's no thought of a leadership challenge in my mind at all. I have to get back to the day job now."

Four Conservative councillors on the authority – not including Cllr Kemp – had voted against the proposed budget in February. Cllr Thomas then agreed a deal with Labour to get the budget voted through after a meeting where he says it became clear he could not rely on the support of his own group.

Cllr Kemp was among 11 Conservative councillors who abstained from voting for the amended budget in a later meeting on March 8. He said: "I was disappointed that John Thomas, instead of trying to reach out and come to an agreement (among Conservative councillors), decided to discuss and come to an agreement with the Labour group.

"I felt I couldn't support a budget which had Labour input."

Cllr Kemp was sacked just minutes after voting against the administration on another issue – the proposed move of Llancarfan School to Rhoose – at a cabinet meeting on March 18. But Cllr Thomas said Cllr Kemp's sacking was not directly related to the Llancarfan School issue. Cllr Kemp had criticised the proposals and voted against them several times before.

Cllr Thomas said: "The decision to replace Cllr Kemp on cabinet was nothing to do with him voting against cabinet colleagues on the Llancarfan issue. I understand his position on Llancarfan and, although I don't agree with it, I do respect the fact that he has argued for what he considers is best for residents in his ward.

"I do, however, have a problem with a cabinet member not supporting the administration on the most important issue of setting a balanced budget, as happened last Friday at Special Council.

"I'm afraid that following that vote I had to make the decision as to whether I was able to continue to work with Cllr Kemp as a member of my cabinet. This was not an easy decision to make but I do need to be sure that my cabinet members have the good of the administration and the Vale at heart and felt that this was not the case."

Cllr Ben Gray has replaced Cllr Gordon Kemp as cabinet member for social care, health and leisure. In a further Vale Council cabinet shake-up, Cllr Kathryn McCaffer will take over from Cllr Geoff Cox as cabinet member for neighbourhood services and transport. Cllr Cox is stepping down due to ill health.

Matt Discombe
Local democracy reporter

Cinema night in Llantwit Major

FOR April's film night at Llantwit Major Library, we will be transported back to 1940s London where morale on the home front is dwindling as a nation endures the horrors of the Blitz.

Here we meet a former secretary who has recently been appointed the unlikely role of script writer for the British Ministry's propaganda films.

This comedy drama will give us a light-hearted insight into the life of a woman whose talents have inadvertently taken her to the heart of the propaganda machine of wartime Britain. For the price of a £2 raffle ticket, it promises to be an evening to warm the heart as well as drawing a few laughs along the way. Cinema night will be on Tuesday, April 2; doors open at 7:15pm and the film starts at 7:30pm.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL MARCH 28)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
21 Thur	06.41	10.6	18.59	10.7
22 Fri	07.23	10.8	19.46	10.8
23 Sat	07.59	10.7	20.26	10.6
24 Sun	08.45	10.5	20.59	10.2
25 Mon	09.22	10.0	21.42	9.6
26 Tues	09.59	9.3	22.22	8.9
27 Wed	10.42	8.5	22.59	8.2
28 Thurs	11.32	7.8	23.59	7.6

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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The Cowbridge Town Hall clock will stop to advance!

AT 2am Greenwich Mean Time on Sunday, March 31 the clock on Cowbridge Town Hall will stop.

It will restart 11 hours later at what will then be 2pm British Summer Time. By this means the clock will advance one hour to align with British Summer Time. At least that is what has been promised by the manufacturer of the electronic control system which was installed last year!

The new control system has brought to an end the need to manually adjust the clock twice per year, which has been necessary since British Summer Time was introduced in 1916.

The idea of moving the clocks forward during the summer was proposed by a number of people around 1900. Probably the most prominent campaigner was a builder from Kent called William Willett who argued that it would mean longer daylight hours for recreation, improving health and also saving the country money in lighting costs.

He published a pamphlet and gained the support of the MP Robert Pearce who put forward the idea in the House of Commons in 1908 but they were ahead of their time.

What finally convinced the government was the need to conserve coal during the first world war. The Summer Time Act was finally passed in the UK on May 17, 1916. The clocks went forward one hour for the first time on the following Sunday, May 21, 1916 and the practice has continued ever since with clocks now going forward on the last Sunday in March and back again on the last Sunday in October.

There have been two periods of Double Summer Time in order to conserve fuel. The first was during the second world war when clocks were put forward two hours in the spring of 1940 and then put back just one hour each autumn until 1945 when they were put back two hours. This was repeated in 1947.

There have been a number of ultimately unsuccessful attempts in parliament to make changes to the current system, with campaigns for both Double Summer Time and a permanent British Summer Time.

In 1968, the government of Harold Wilson introduced the British Standard Time experiment, with Britain remaining on GMT+1 throughout the year. This took place from October 27, 1968 until October 31, 1971 when clocks were put back following a free vote in the House of Commons.

So, if on the morning of March 31 you notice that the Town Hall clock has stopped, it hasn't really. It is just waiting for time to catch up!

John Andrew

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Big Screen does the fandango!

BIG Screen's next film for this season is Bohemian Rhapsody (Cert 12A) on Thursday, March 21 at 7.30pm in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Bohemian Rhapsody is a celebration of Queen, their music and their extraordinary lead singer Freddie Mercury (played by Oscar-winning Rami Malek). The film traces the rise of the band through their songs and revolutionary sound as they reach unparalleled success.

Doors open 7.10pm, Tickets (£4) available in advance from the Town Clerk's office, or on the door.

Big Screen is the trading name of the Vale of Glamorgan Film Society, a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers.

Obituary – Howard Morgan (1932–2019) Fond memories of 'the Skipper'

AT tea on August Bank Holiday Monday in 1974 in Cowbridge, a short balding man was sitting on a roller, smoking a cigarette and thinking his own thoughts.

Nobody went near him. The Skipper needed time to think. Cowbridge had scored just over 100 on a wet, but now drying, pitch against Pontypridd and the home team had to win to become champions.

The Skipper need not have worried. Leading by example, his attack bowled out Pontypridd and claimed the title. It was the climax of four years as captain of Cowbridge and a high water mark of the club's standing. It was also the end of an era of success.

Howard Morgan, who died in March 2019 aged 87, was the Skipper. He was captain of Cowbridge Cricket Club for four seasons between 1973 and 1976 and during that period, he led the club to the Welsh Club Cricket Conference title in 1974.

Howard was born and brought up in Maesteg and initially played for Maesteg Celtic. He played two games for Glamorgan, but there were few opportunities for a spin bowler as Jim McConnon and Don Shepherd were among the best pairs in the country.

Nevertheless, he played for a number of clubs and was captain of St Fagans before coming to Cowbridge for his last hurrah.

As a schoolmaster, Howard worked in the Cardiff area and was active in the administration of the Wales Schools' under-19 XI, acting as selector for 25 years.

'H', as he was universally known, was always ready to encourage young cricketers. He gave first XI debuts to a number of players still at school who went on to become stalwarts of the club, including Mark White, Huw Mason, Martyn Bevan and Jeffrey Bird.

Sadly, H was rarely seen at the club after his playing days were over. However, he made a big impact during his time at Cowbridge and will be long remembered by those who played with him.

JB

LOCAL VALE LAW FIRM WINS TOP UK AWARD
'SUCCESS STARTS WITH A GREAT TEAM'

Catherine Hartland & Alexandra Jenkins

Local Barry Law firm attended the prestigious Modern Law Awards in Manchester on Thursday 31January 2019 and were the only law firm from Wales to reach the finals, the only law firm to be finalists in more than 2 awards, and the only law firm to come away with three awards.

Catherine Hartland won Managing Partner of the Year UK

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The Gateway Club enjoy a successful get-together!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The spokeswoman continued: "After a most enjoyable meal, Emily thanking the chef, waiters and waitresses for looking after us, a few more very short speeches and some photos – kindly taken by our dear friend Mike Wilcock – the happy evening concluded with musical entertainment led by 15 or so members of the Vale Ukelastic Band (thank you, Bob Smith for arranging this) which gave everyone an opportunity to sing along while some of our club members took to the floor, enjoying the rest of the evening.

"Thanks to the financial support given by various organisations, our members are able to enjoy a varied and interesting programme, normally every second Monday of the month (usually in the United Free Church hall). In May we have the Nearly Wild Show coming and several other interesting events and visits planned for the summer.

"We will have a stall at the Lions May Day Fair in the Bear Field, Cowbridge on Monday, May 6 (please bring items for the tombola stall to the April Club night) and another of our highlights is our Mystery Coach Trip on Tuesday, June 18.

"Anyone over the age of 16 (with learning disabilities) is very welcome to join us – or if there are any local, friendly volunteer helpers out there, you too would be very welcome.

Further information can be obtained from Betty Alden, president on 773373; Sue Edwards, treasurer on 772788 or Ann Roach, secretary on 781309."

Friends of Tenovus in Cowbridge are planning ahead

IT may be a bit gloomy outside at the moment, but Cowbridge Friends of Tenovus Cancer Care are planning a sunshine-filled summer, and a busy autumn and winter.

The first event of 2019 is a Bollywood-themed night at the Shampan restaurant in Cowbridge. On May 7, there will be entertainment with Indian music, dancers and henna hand painting, while enjoying a three-course banquet and a welcome drink. Tickets cost £25 each, or £90 for a table of four. They are limited, so get yours from the restaurant or the Tenovus shop in the next few weeks.

There will be a touch of Hollywood glamour at the Fablas Ice cream and cocktail bar at Willow Walk, Cowbridge on June 6. Try award-winning luxury ice cream, made with local Ty Tanglwyst full cream milk, in more than 20 flavours, with a selection of canapes, cocktails and 'mocktails' for just £10 per person.

On June 20, there will be a trip to Chipping Campden in the Cotswolds, a beautiful market town just like Cowbridge, with plenty of sightseeing, lunch and shopping opportunities. The bus trip will cost £25 a head, leaving Cowbridge at 9.30am, returning by 7pm.

On November 28, there is a trip to Bath for an early look at the Christmas markets. These trips are extremely popular, so book early; cost £25.

The final event of the year will be the Tenovus Lovelight service at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge, on Friday, December 13.

The first Lovelight was such a success, helping to raise a total of almost £5,000 in the first year, and organisers are confident that this year's service will be even more successful – especially as there will be a West End star singing at the event – can you guess who it will be?

Anne Griffiths Jones, one of the Cowbridge Friends, said: "We are so grateful to our supporters and to our shop manager Tim, his assistant managers Lynda and Jan, and all the shop volunteers who help us sell tickets and organise events. We like to make our events fun, and of course, they raise valuable funds for cancer patients and their families."

Tickets for all Cowbridge Friends of Tenovus Cancer Care events can be obtained from the Tenovus shop, High Street, Cowbridge.

GF

WI's first aid advice

AFTER the opening of the March meeting of Boverton WI, Joan welcomed everyone, thanking them all for turning out in such awful weather.

We also welcomed a new member.

The celebration 70th birthday dinner, at West House Hotel in February, was grand, and members and guests thoroughly enjoyed themselves. On March, 4 several members revisited a shoe shop in Cardiff, where we were offered drinks and a buffet before buying shoes and handbags.

Joan announced our fundraising afternoon tea will be on July 2, with all proceeds going to support Alzheimer's. There will hopefully be a trip on June 8, details to follow.

Samantha B will put on a fashion show for us with several members acting as models. This is always an enjoyable evening; tickets will be £2 each with proceeds again going to Alzheimer's. With the business completed, our speaker was introduced.

Liz Evans is a First Responder whose job is to demonstrate to groups and schools the use of defibrillators for cardiac arrest. Llantwit Major has four at strategic points around town. In the event of cardiac arrest the machine gives audible and concise instructions on its use.

Using a model, Liz took us through signs, symptoms and treatment. It is an excellent and necessary item to have on hand should an emergency arise. Liz answered many questions and a vote of thanks was given.

Two members won raffle prizes and Joan won the monthly competition 'granny's remedies'. In April we have our annual meeting and appointing of a committee for 2019, also there will be a book stall.

WJ

Lloyd and Louis' world record bid

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lloyd continued: "While I was growing up, he was my hero. He attacked life with optimism and humour and never gave up and never complained.

"He lived in Porthcawl and unfortunately passed away in March 2018, two days after his 57th birthday. He inspired me to cycle around the world for spinal research."

Lloyd and Louis are still confident they can break the current Guinness world record. They are raising funds for two charities Spinal Research and The Brain Foundation. Donations can be made at www.worldtandem.com/.

TC

Mystic Mike's predictions secure Six Nations prize

FROM 749 entries in the Cowbridge Rotary Club competition, inviting local people to predict the results of the Six Nations Rugby, there is one winner who takes the £100 prize.

He is Mike Carter of Cowbridge. Mike's win was secured by predicting the drawn match between England and Scotland which carried three points for a draw.

After costs and many donations, the competition yielded £600 for the club's charity account.

The club is grateful to the Glamorgan GEM and The Bear Hotel and all the entries who supported the competition.

AL

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U3A told of encounters with gorillas in the mist

THE speaker at the recent meeting of the Cowbridge U3A natural history group was globe-trotting group leader Teresa.

She and her husband had taken advantage of an invitation to a niece's wedding at Victoria Falls in 2018 to extend their stay in Africa, along with other family members, to see the fabulous wildlife.

First on the itinerary before the wedding was Chobe National Park in Botswana, famous for its elephants. They weren't disappointed, seeing a large herd on the river bank, as well as a younger bull elephant swimming across the river.

Crocodiles and hippos also made an appearance, but the best sighting was of a leopard, resting in the shade under a tree after making a kill – rarely do tourists get such a good view of this big cat, which usually hides on a tree branch in the foliage.

Next, they visited the Okavango delta where a pack of eight wild dogs was encountered, feasting on a reedbuck they had recently killed. A smallish pool of water contained at least 27 hippos, not pleased at being disturbed.

In the group's camp, which was unfenced, a single, large bull elephant was photographed roaring and flapping his ears, angry at something. No wonder that, after dark, guests had to be accompanied back to their lodges by an armed warden.

A short pause in the wildlife safari followed when they flew to Victoria Falls for the wedding, but there was still time for sightseeing at the magnificent waterfalls.

The final part of the trip was a visit to Rwanda to see the famous mountain gorillas, staying in a lodge at an elevation of 2,300m (over 7,500 feet) – hot in the day, but very cold at night (when log fires and hot water bottles were provided).

To see the gorillas required an early start, in a small group of only seven tourists, led by an experienced guide. After an hour of hacking through the forest with machetes, the party suddenly met a large male silverback gorilla.

Fortunately the guide, who had worked with Dian Fossey, the American primatologist, conservationist and writer of 'Gorillas in the Mist', could speak 'gorilla' and was able to reassure the gorilla that all was well.

Teresa concluded her talk with photographs of some of the colourful birds seen on the trip, such as saddle-billed stork, African skimmer (reminiscent of a tern, but with a much larger bill and a lower mandible much longer than the upper), the kori bustard (the national bird of Botswana), violet-backed starling, and several types of colourful rollers.

SPM

Sports and 'time banking' fair comes to Memorial Hall

THE Vale Council's 'time banking' scheme is led by its Community Investment team, which is co-hosting the Vale Sports and Time Banking fair at Barry Memorial Hall on March 28.

A spokesperson said: "The time banking initiative rewards council tenants with time credits in return for volunteering on local projects.

"These time credits can then be spent at local art centres, leisure centres, football grounds and a range of other local venues.

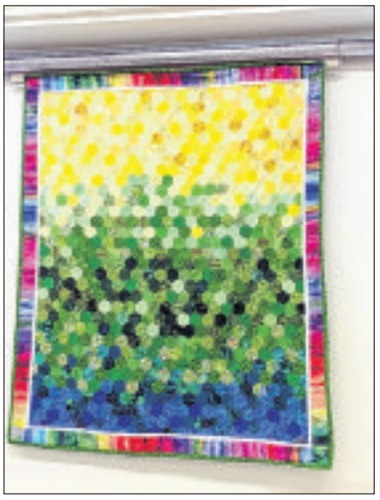
"Also hosting the event are the council's Healthy Living team, who will be on hand to promote the local clubs looking for volunteers."

The fair will take place at Barry Memorial Hall between 4pm and 8pm on Thursday, March 28.

For more information on time banking, visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/working/Volunteering/Time-Banking.aspx, or contact the Community Investment team on 07826 020707.

AS

'And after all, you're my WonderWool…'



THE craft group in Colwinston has spent the last six months working on three large wall hangings: one is patchwork, one is knitted and the other one is felted.

These will be exhibited at WonderWool Wales, which is held on the Royal Welsh Showground at Builth Wells in April. It is the largest wool and natural fibre festival in Wales.

On Saturday, March 30 from 1.30pm to 3.30pm the work will be on display at Colwinston village hall. Free tea and cakes will be provided.

We are running a coach to WonderWool on Saturday, April 27. It will be a day out with lots to see and buy. Call Chris on 01656 660935 for details.

WI members learn how department stores expanded

THE March meeting of St Hilary WI was held in the village hall on the 12th and this month's speaker was Gwerfyl Gardner, with a talk entitled 'Are You Being Served?'.

The subject of this talk was nothing to do with television, as the title might imply, but rather the history behind various department stores, with particular attention to Welsh connections.

Mrs Gardner started with the Welsh in London who tended to dominate the milk delivery and drapery businesses. James Howell, founder of Howells & Co of Cardiff, was born in Pembrokeshire and moved to London where he worked in Gorringe's and gained experience.

He then moved back to Wales and established a small draper's shop in The Hayes. From there he built up the business until it grew into the store as it is today.

It was taken over by House of Fraser in 1972. David Morgan also set up a small draper's shop on the Hayes in 1879. From this small shop the store steadily expanded along the Hayes, consisting of three buildings connected by arcades.

Mrs Gardner facinated members with a taste of how life was for the shop assistants back in the 19th century, with the rules and regulations they had to follow. Memories were also stirred by the mention of stores long gone such as Marments, Seccombes, Mackross and Dan Evans to name just a few. Members were treated to an entertaining history lesson.

The evening ended with the usual delicious refreshments provided this month by Barbara Gay and Jackie Roberts. The next meeting will be on April 9 with guest speaker David Payne with a talk on Blood Bikes Wales.

SD

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Vale Council's new parking policy revealed

PLANS to charge people to park on-street in town centres in the Vale have been dropped.

The council is still planning to introduce charges for car parks in Barry and Cowbridge and many of the Vale's coastal resorts – but previous plans for on-street parking in the region's town centres have been dropped following public opposition.

Parking in town centres would remain free of charge for the first two hours and on Sundays – but new charges would be introduced outside these times.

Car park charges are proposed all year around for Barry Island, Ogmore-by-Sea and Southerndown with parking free before 8am with reduced tariffs after 4pm. On-street parking charges would also be applied at the resorts of Barry Island and Penarth Esplanade.

Parking charges would also be applied at the coastal car parks of Barry's Cold Knap, Cwm Col Huw in Llantwit Major and at Penarth's Cliff Walk. These new charges will for 2019-20 only apply during the summer season. Charges of between £1 and £3 would be introduced to Cosmeston Lakes and Porthkerry Country Parks between 8am and 6pm.

Permits of between six and 12 months would be available for town centre car parks and reduced price annual passes would be available at Cosmeston and Porthkerry and all resort and coastal car parks. Parking for cars displaying a blue badge would remain free of charge in all areas.

Charges for some Llantwit Major car parks are to be put on hold pending discussions with Llantwit Major Town Council.

The plans to introduce the new parking charges, drawn up by the council and private firm Capita, were overwhelmingly opposed during a consultation. There are proposed charges for short stay and long stay car parks.

Short stay car parks at Kendrick Road, Thompson Street and Wyndham Street, Barry, The Butts, Town Hall Square and Southgate, Cowbridge: Monday to Saturday 8am to 6pm up to two hours free, up to three hours £1, up to four hours £2, up to five hours £5 and all day £6. Annual permits would be £160 for six months and £300 for 12 months.

The long stay car park at Court Road multi storey, Barry: Monday to Saturday 8am to 6pm up to two hours free, up to three hours £1, up to four hours £2, up to five hours £4 and all day £5. Annual permits would be £80 for six months and £150 for 12 months.

Resort car parks will be up to one hour £1, more than one hour £6. From 4.01pm to 11pm up to one hour £1, more than one hour £3. Annual permits for each car park would be £300.

Coastal car parks at Barry (Cold Knap and Bron y Mor), Llantwit Major Cwm Colhuw, Penarth Cliff Walk. Summer charges (all week between 8am and 8pm) up to one hour £1 and all day £3 with a £12 charge for buses and coaches. Winter (November to February) no charge.

Country Parks car parks at Cosmeston and Porthkerry up to two hours parking for £1 and all day set at £3 with bus/coach parking at £10 all day. Charges would be all year around between 8am to 6pm seven days per week. Annual permits would be £75 per car park.

On-street parking: No charges proposed for town centres in 2019-20. Charges are proposed at Penarth Esplanade and Barry Island all year around, seven days a week. Up to two hours £2, up to three hours £4, up to four hours £6, up to five hours £8 and all day £10. Charges in the winter for Penarth Esplanade would be half the summer charge.

How would the charges be enforced? The Vale Council is proposing to set up an in-house parking and environmental enforcement team, taking over from current provider 3GS. Solar-powered pay and display machines – with coins and contactless options – are also proposed.

Charges will apply for resident parking permits. One permit would be £10 per year, two permits would be an additional £20, three permits would be an additional £30, with fees increasing proportionately with the number of permits. There would be no limit to the number of permits a household can purchase.

But there would be a limit of one short term visitor permit per home per year – which would cost £20. More than 65 per cent of people who responded either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the aims of the parking policy, while the majority opposed the new charges.

Up to 90 per cent either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the now-dropped proposals for on-street charges in town centres. The parking policy was approved by the Vale Council cabinet on Monday, March 18 and it is likely the proposed charges will come into effect later in 2019.

A spokesman for the council said: "Maintaining the Vale's car parks costs the council upwards of £300,000 each year and this does not include the costs of managing the resorts they support. As was widely acknowledged during the debate on the council's budget for 2019-20 we have no alternative but to seek to raise additional income if we wish to continue to provide the services that we know our residents want and which bring visitors to the Vale.

"We have listened carefully to the views shared during the consultation and the policy proposed differs significantly from that proposed by Capita. Parking will be free for two hours in all town centre car parks and town centre on-street parking will incur no charge at all. We have done all we can to ensure these charges do not penalise local residents and where new charges are being proposed we have ensured these will be competitive with neighbouring local authority areas.

"The new measures for residents' parking permits will also ensure that where spaces are at a premium, local residents can ensure they have preference for a very reasonable cost, with no restriction on the number of permits that each household can apply for."

Matt Discombe, local democracy reporter

Celebrating St David's Day at Y Bont Faen

ON March 6, Y Bont Faen School celebrated St David's Day with songs, poems and dancing.

The highlight of the eisteddfod was the Chairing of the Bard, which was awarded to Edie Evans for her amazing 'hustle and bustle' poem 'Hustle to Victory' - about the atmosphere during a Six Nations match.

The eisteddfod was closed with the singing of 'Mae Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau'.

Luke B and Isabella P.

Cowbridge Women's Fellowship members enjoy a spring lunch

THE Sycamore Tree Inn provided the venue for the Cowbridge Women's Fellowship springtime lunch this year.

Nineteen members enjoyed a delicious lunch on a lovely, sunny spring day. Those who couldn't make it were disappointed to miss out on a great deal of good-humoured conversation and a lot of laughter!

Our springtime get together always marks the end of winter for us. It encourages us all to look forward to warm days, gardens full of flowers and gorgeous scent. We are all looking forward to this month's group walk.

One of our members, Barbara James, is leading a historic, Blue Plaque Walk Around Cowbridge. Why not come and join us? We meet in the church hall, Llanblethian at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of the month.

If you would like to know more about the Fellowship group events and activities, call Hazel Coates on 01443 226412 or Georgina Magnay on 01446 774335.

MJ

Rotary club's musical St David's Day treat

COWBRIDGE Rotary Club's celebrations of St David's Day, although held on March 2, were a great tribute to our patron saint and all things Welsh.

After a delicious traditional meal of cawl, Welsh cakes and bara brith, over 80 members and guests were entertained by three extremely talented musicians from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama arranged by Caryl Thomas of Cowbridge Rotary.

Pictured are Elin Kelly (harpist), Esylit Thomas (soprano), who recently sang for the Queen at Buckingham Palace and Osian Wyn Bowen (tenor).

They played a selection of beautiful Welsh songs and instrumentals. The interval also provided an opportunity for the delivery of some Welsh poetry by members of the club.

Thanks go to Heather Weddell and members of the Cowbridge United Free Church for the use of the Ramoth and to the three Cowbridge Comprehensive Rotary Interactors for supporting the event.

Huw Davies organised the event and a total of £1,034 was raised, which will be equally shared between the president's charities: Samaritans, Y Bont and Crisis.

Pictured above are Elin Kelly, Esylit Thomas and Osian Wyn Bowen.

Continuing our look at South Wales Aviation Museum...

LAST week, The GEM brought readers news of a new museum in the Vale, the South Wales Aviation Museum (SWAM).

As well as a museum, a conservation centre, and an education and training facility, SWAM in St Athan has other uses.

"We have car owners' clubs holding meetings here and would be delighted to see more, and those on two wheels."

Or three if one includes Morgans, Reliant Robins, and Bond Bugs.

"So classic car shows are another obvious thing to host here, and we might have the venue licensed to hold weddings, naming ceremonies, anything like that.

"Imagine getting married inside a static Douglas DC6 airliner!"

They might also turn it into a conference centre.

Possibilities are nigh-on limitless, but all of this, of course, comes at a cost, and Messrs Spoors and Sparks are funding the museum themselves.

It will be set up as a charity with a limited company donating profits to it. As a charity, it will be able to apply for Heritage Lottery Funding, and from other sources and trusts.

Danny Banga, Morgan Nicholls, and a Jet Provost.

Visitors will be able to make donations, but for now, the chaps behind SWAM are looking for local support, more in kind than cash, though they will happily accept the latter.

"We had a magnificent donation of flooring costing thousands of pounds, but it will cost a couple of thousand to install it," said Mr Sparks.

"What we want to do," said Mr Spoors, "is to reach out to the business community in and around south Wales, and beyond, to see how we can work together to create a landmark museum and education and training centre in a region rich with aviation and engineering history.

"For example, a ramp for disabled access to the gallery presents its own challenges, limits of space and suchlike, but what a project for a CAD designer and a fabrication company; they will be able to say they helped quite literally to get the museum off the ground.

Record setter and holder **Black Mike.**

"And when we say 'landmark', we also mean 'unique'; the closest equivalent to our vision is IWM Duxford in Cambridgeshire, but what we will do here – showing the past, and inspiring, training, and equipping our young men and women, and the tech, engineering, and aerospace industries for the future – well, there is no place like it in Wales, or in the UK, and it will be here, in the Vale of Glamorgan."

For more information, telephone 01446 789767 or search for South Wales Aviation Museum on Facebook. Viewings are currently by appointment only.

£118,000 awarded to community venues across the Vale

TWELVE community venues in the Vale have been awarded a total of £118,683 from the Vale Council's 'Stronger Communities' grant fund.

A further round of more than £140k of funding was agreed by the council's cabinet on March 18.

Venues such as The Gathering Place in St Athan, Murchfield Community Centre in Dinas Powys, the YMCA in Barry and Aberthin Village Hall have all received grants for renovations, new equipment, computer software, or to run new community activities.

Treoes Community Hall has been completely refurbished with new carpets, fire doors, blinds, and furniture after the management committee received a grant of £5,839.

A spokesperson for the group said: "Feedback from older members of the community, especially the Young at Heart Group, was their absolute delight at having at last comfortable modern theatre-style chairs to sit on rather than the old plastic bucket ones"

Rhoose Community Hall, All Saints Church, Castleland Community Centre, Llansannor Village Hall, Ogmore By Sea Village Hall, Saron Vestry, and Wenvoe Village Hall have all also benefitted from the Stronger Communities fund.

Cllr John Thomas, Leader of the Vale Council, said: "Local groups and the volunteers who support them are the lifeblood of our communities. In August 2017, the council set aside £670,000 to support community-led organisations through the Strong Communities Grant Fund. Since then, we have received over 200 enquiries from the third sector and funded 34 projects in the Vale.

"The investment into venues such as Treoes Community Hall and the benefits it brings show that we are achieving that goal."

Llantwit Major Horticultural Society

The next meeting of the society will be held on Wednesday, March 27 at 7.30pm when our speaker will be Lauren Evans of Fablas Ice Cream, who will discuss the making of ice cream (with time allowed for tasting!) at the Llantonian Hall. New members and guests always welcome.

Body found at Nash Point

POLICE were called to Nash Point in the Vale on Sunday, March 17 following the discovery of a body.

On Monday a police spokeswoman said: "Although formal identification has not yet taken place, the family of missing woman Elin Boyle has been informed.

"Mrs Boyle, 43, was last seen leaving her home address in Danescourt, Cardiff, at around 5.50pm on Tuesday, March 12, 2019."

New dog controls in the Vale

THE Vale Council won't be introducing any more restrictions on dogs at locations that include sports pitches – although there will be controls elsewhere.

The decision has been welcomed by local dog owners.

On Monday, March 18 the Vale Cabinet agreed to introduce a PSPO – a public space protection order – to ensure there are effective controls on dogs in specified areas. The PSPO report will be considered next by a scrutiny committee before the likelihood of it being formally agreed by the Cabinet.

The report says dog bans will exist all year round in all fenced off children's play areas, conservation areas and bowling greens and will apply on a seasonal basis on the beaches at Whitmore Bay, Dunraven Bay and Cwm Colhuw.

Dog bans won't apply at Cold Knap and Penarth Beach. 'Dog on lead' controls will apply in parks where children's play areas are not fenced off and at Penarth and Whitmore Bay promenades. At Whitmore Bay, the 'dog on lead' control will include the promenade gardens. The controls will be all year round.

There won't be any more restrictions introduced on sport pitches because measures are in place which enable the council to take action if dog mess is not picked up by owners. The council says there's going to be increased enforcement, but says it hopes there will be a good working relationship with responsible owners.

The new PSPO regime will last for three years and maps with full details will be published on the Vale Council's website.

Last year, during the consultation period on the PSPO, local dog owner Sue Cribbs started a Facebook group 'Objections to the VOG Council Public Space Protection Order Dog Control' which now has almost 2,000 members. She has always emphasised that responsible dog owners support the council when it cracks down on dog fouling.

This week, speaking in a personal capacity and not as a group spokesperson, she said: "I'm pleased that less Draconian measures are planned in the amended PSPO but I am disappointed in the plans for my local park, Alexander Gardens in Barry.

"It has a fitness area used by adults and teenagers but not young children that is not fenced off. It also has benches and tables. If the PSPO goes ahead this will be a dog 'no go area'. The executive summary of the report only talks about fenced children's areas being banned, so this is misleading.

"The path around the park runs a couple of feet away from the gym area in places and it will be impossible to keep an off-lead dog from straying onto the gym area."

She said council staff would need to show discretion in how measures were applied to the restricted areas. On her Facebook group, the Vale Council's decision not to introduce more restrictions at sports pitches was welcomed with one person commenting: "I moved to Barry from Cardiff last November and we campaigned against the banning of dogs on sports pitches.

"The vast majority of city centre open spaces in Cardiff had sports pitches on and there was statistically more of an issue with rubbish and litter, especially after a weekend of sports, than with dog owners letting their dogs foul on pitches.

"You will never stop irresponsible owners from not picking up after their dogs no matter what restrictions and bans are in place. Better to take responsibility as owners; educate, and try to encourage compliance rather than tar owners all with the same brush.

"I was happy when Cardiff council retracted their plans to ban (on sports pitches) and I am happy that the Vale has followed suit now I am resident here."

TC

Vale Youth Forum visits Senedd

Jane Hutt and members of the forum and youth club.

DURING half term, Vale AM Jane Hutt received pupils from the Vale Youth Forum and from Colwinston Youth Club at the Senedd.

The young people visited to find out more about the Assembly and to meet Ms Hutt and to discuss some political issues.

Ms Hutt said: "It is always wonderful to meet members of the Youth Forum and of youth clubs throughout the Vale. They are always so engaged and interested in politics and are thoughtful during debates and discussions."

AS

Free funding workshops

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) has arranged a free funding workshop with the National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF - formerly Big Lottery Fund) on April 4 in Llantwit Major.

The interactive workshop will explain the NLCF's new approach to help strengthen your application. Advice will also be given on how to use their online portal.

The workshop will be most useful for groups applying for small grants (below £10,000) and will also be of interest if considering applying for medium (up to £100,000) or large (up to £500,000) grants.

The workshop will be at GVS's new centre CF61 (formerly Llantwit Major Youth Centre) in Station Road, starting at 10.30am and finishing by 12 noon. To apply for a place contact Dave Edwards at GVS, email: dave@gvs.wales or call 01446 741706.

For further details about GVS and its services, call 01446 741706, email: enquiries@gvs.wales, @GVolServices or visit www.gvs.wales.

A busy spring and summer programme planned for Ramblers

PENARTH and District Ramblers will be clocking up their 26th year at the end of this month and their new spring and summer programme is packed with some delightful goodies.

These include three trips away, starting with a four-day walking break in the Peak District and Buxton in May which will be led by John, followed up by a weekend break at Lynton and Lynmouth with Clive in June and rounded off by William, who will be hosting a two day tramp in Worcestershire in September.

This year is Wales' 'Year of Discovery' and this ties in neatly with the Ramblers who are hosting a Wales Coast Path (WCP) Festival to celebrate the fact that it is seven years since the WCP was launched. A seven-day walking festival will travel from north Wales to south, and various Ramblers groups will be taking part including Penarth with Clive and William, who will be leading two walks, a six-mile and a 13-mile in the Llantwit area on May 19 involving both coach and train travel.

During the Vale Walking Festival (May 21-26), William will be leading a 12-mile walk from Monknash taking in the Heritage Coast and rural Vale on May 22, while footpath officer Geraint will be visiting Dinas Powys Hillfort on the same day, then on May 3, Lavernock Nature Reserve and the World War Two battery on two shorter walks.

The popular short summer evening walks will return between mid-May and mid-August using our local footpath network and no doubt some of the paths will have been cleared by the groups Loppers and Choppers beforehand.

The group's small band of dedicated leaders, who are all volunteers, have produced some spectacular walks for the coming six months including two rail rambles: the first to Bargoed and the Sirhowy Valley and the second Abergavenny back to Pontypool. The annual Three Castles long distance walk with William will be coming up in June; there will be a summer barbecue in July and a visit to Carreg Cennen with Rachel, which is billed as Wales' most romantic castle.

We are welcoming new leader Alison to the fold and there will be visits to the Black Mountains, the Brecon Beacons, Gower, waterfall country in the Neath Valley, the Ogwr Valley, Abersychan, Rhiwderin, Bryngarw, Pontsticill, Clytha and the Three Saints Walk to name but a few, so feel free to join us.

On March 16, meet at 9am at Barry Dock Railway Station for a 6.5-mile moderate walk on Vale Trail 9 - the Iolo Morgannwg Heritage Walk; contact Sheila on 07932 523 415.

For up to date information, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com and Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

Joy Strangward

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (PENDOYLAN ROAD (RHAN) TRESIMWN) (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) 2019

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill yn cynnig, mewn dim llai na 7 diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, gwneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATODLEN 1

Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn gyrru neu'n gadael i gerbyd deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad: Y ffordd a gaiff ei chau fydd Pendoylan Road o Oleuadau Traffig Sycamore Cross ar yr A48 am 600m i'r gyffordd â'r ffordd i Lanbedr-y-fro.

Rheswm: I alluogi gwaith i fynd rhagddo i ledu'r ffordd.

Hyd: O 8.00am ddydd Llun 8 Ebrill 2019 tan 5.00pm ddydd Sul 26 Mai 2019

Llwybr Arall: Bydd gwyriadau ag arwyddion ar waith ar gyfer traffig yn teithio i'r dwyrain ar - yr A48, Croes Cwrlwys, Michaelston Road Caerdydd, Crofft y Gaenau Road – Caerdydd, St Brides Road – Llanbder-y-fro hyd at bentref Llanbedr-y-fro Bydd y gwyriadau i draffig yn teithio i'r gorllewin ar yr A48, Watery Lane – Llanddunwyd a'r lôn ddienw o Hensol Cottage i Bendeulwyn ac i'r gwrthwyneb.

DS: Bydd mynediad i gerddwyr yn parhau gydol yr adeg.

Dyddiedig 21 Mawrth 2019

Cyfarwyddwr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, The Alps,
Gwenfô, CF5 6AA.

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PENDOYLAN ROAD (PART) BONVILSTON) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2019

12x6

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location: The road to be closed is the Pendoylan Road from Sycamore Cross Traffic Lights at the A48 for a distance of 600m to the junction with the road to Peterston-Super-Ely.

Reason: To allow for road widening works to be undertaken.

Duration: From 8.00am on Monday 8th April 2019 until 5.00pm on Sunday 26th May 2019.

Alt. Route: Signed diversions will be in place for Eastbound traffic via- A48, Culverhouse Cross, Michaelston Road Cardiff, Crofft y Gaenau Road - Cardiff, St Brides Road – Peterston Super Ely through to Peterston Super Ely village. Westbound traffic will be via A48, Watery Lane – Welsh St Donats and the unnamed lane leading from Hensol Cottage to Pendoylan and vise-versa.

NB: Pedestrian access will remain in place at all times.

Dated this 21st day of March 2019.

Director of Environment & Housing,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

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To find out more about Pearl, contact Dogs Trust Bridgend on 01656 725219; or visit the rehoming centre in Bridgend, CF31 4NG. You can also visit the website at www.dogstrust.org.uk.

Barry is a property hot spot

BARRY has hit the heights after a property website calculated that house prices have risen more in the town than any other area in the UK.

Rightmove found the average property price in Barry rose by 10.6 per cent annually.

It said the average asking price had jumped by more than a fifth in the past five years and is now £191,050.

"It's great to see Barry named as the country's hottest property market right now," said Miles Shipside, Rightmove's property expert.

"It's a great tourist spot thanks to the popularity of Gavin & Stacey, and not forgetting Barry also boasts some quite stunning coastal views."

"Barry is the place to be so I'm not at all surprised by Rightmove's findings," said Andrew Fenton, sales director at Chris Davies estate agents in the Vale.

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Ysgol Bro team takes the prize in national public speaking contest

The Ysgol Bro Morgannwg team with Elena Morgan (teacher), Rhys Griffiths, Sara Jones, Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards, Morgan Bailey and Derek Morgan.

The Y Pant Comprehensive team: Tom Evans, Amelie Donovan-Davies, Evie Morgan, and Mia Jones (teacher).

The team from Whitmore High School, Barry at ESU competition Luke Beecham, Ms S Morgan (teacher), Ryan Ellis and Thomas Froud.

TWO Welsh medium secondary schools produced the winning and runner-up teams at this year's Welsh national final of the English Speaking Union (ESU) Churchill Public Speaking competition for schools, which was held once again in the Debating Chamber of Ty Hywel, Cardiff Bay on March 5.

An ESU spokeswoman said: "We were delighted to welcome the chief executive of the Assembly, Manon Antoniazzi, who opened the event with warm words of welcome and encouragement to the students.

"The schools in the final were: Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr from Swansea; Y Pant Comprehensive School, Pontyclun; Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, Barry; St John's College, Cardiff; Whitmore High School, Barry, and Treorchy Comprehensive School.

"The topics discussed were varied and challenging and students had clearly carried out detailed research. Standards were high – perhaps better than ever before at this competition – and the winning team members from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg in Barry have good reason to be proud of themselves."

The team was Sara Jones, Rhys Griffiths and Morgan Bailey and their chosen subject, 'What does it mean to live in a world where Donald Trump is President of the USA?', was effectively addressed and made the audience think about some of the reasons why the American people had voted as they did.

Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards, president of the south Wales branch of the ESU, presented the team with the Fairwood Shield.

Certificates to mark their participation were presented to all the competitors by Derek Morgan, chair of the ESU south Wales branch. The team from Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr were the runners-up and were particularly delighted as they had not entered the competition before, and their team was made up of year-9 students – somewhat younger than most others involved.

Prizes were also presented to Sara Jones as the best chairperson, to Elena Ruddy as the best speaker and to Jack Aldridge as the best questioner by Lady Susan Inkin, outgoing vice-chair of the branch.

The spokeswoman added: "The winning team now goes on to represent Wales at the UK Final at Churchill College, Cambridge on April 27. A team from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg won the UK final in 2017 and we hope that this year's team can repeat their success, flying the flag for Wales again in 2019.

"The ESU's goal is to help young people 'find their voice', and to develop students' self-confidence. To do this, the local branch runs competitions and workshops for primary and secondary students, providing free training for students in the spring and summer terms, funded by our members who generously support our regular literary lunches and other events.

"Members are most grateful to the deputy presiding officer, Ann Jones AM, for her sponsorship of the Public Speaking Competition final; to the Assembly for its support; to the schools that support the competition and to the teachers who give their time to coach their teams.

"They are also most grateful to the three judges – Bob Saull from London ESU, Delyth Hurley and Katherine Kettle – who willingly gave their time and expertise, and to the timekeeper, Victor Lloyd-Nesling."

MP

TLC transforms stray cat into 'Princess Mushka'

Princess Mushka.

STRAY cat Mushka was a stray living outside in the cold and her fur was dirty and stained.

She had weeping sores on her shoulder, back and ear, probably from burns where she had sought shelter under a car bonnet.

But Mushka's luck finally changed when she was taken to Cats Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre.

"Mushka was very scared and shied away from our cat carers when she first arrived", said Cats Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre manager Sue Dobbs.

"She received treatment for her injuries and we gave her lots of TLC.

"After a couple of weeks, her sores had healed enough for her to have a bath to clean away some of the dirt.

"By this time, Mushka had gained in confidence and started to wrap her paws around all of our hearts. She's become a little love bug!"

Over the next few weeks, Mushka continued to recover, slowly but surely.

Her skin became very itchy during healing so she had to wear a buster collar - and a red jumper when she became fed up with the collar.

Eight weeks later, she has a sparkle back in her eyes and her fur is becoming shiny and white.

She has an entourage of cat carers waiting to do her bidding and she is affectionately called Princess Mushka!

Sue said: "Mushka has come a long way from the sorry state she was in when she was first admitted into our care eight weeks ago.

"Her miraculous transformation from the poorly cat she was into the Princess Mushka we now know and love is a testimony to the hard work and commitment of the team at Cats Protection Bridgend.

"She continues to make steady improvement and hopefully will be available for adoption in the coming weeks."

"Mushka is one of many needy cats coming into our care every year, many of whom need urgent vet treatment and lots of TLC to give them a second chance in life; this wouldn't be possible without the generosity of kind cat lovers.

"If members of the public would like to donate to support our work, they can do so online at www.justgiving.com/fundraisi.../cats-protection-mushka or text BRID to 70577 to donate £5.00."

If you are interested in adopting Mushka or our other cats in need of homes, please contact the centre on 01656 724396 or email bridgend@cats.org.uk

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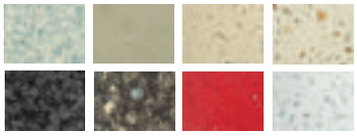

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Flying high for charity with wing walk

RIGHT: Vicky Jones will raise awareness for the charity with her wing walk.

LOCAL company Topstak will be sponsoring a charity wing walk to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Vicky Jones from Gower was diagnosed with the disease six years ago and hopes to raise funds and awareness for the charity when she tackles her wing walk on April 25.

Vicky said: "Many people have heard of multiple sclerosis, but very few, unless directly affected by it, seem to know much about it. I was always busy – a 100 mph person, now I struggle to get up and dressed and the simplest of tasks takes me so long and tires me greatly.

"It often feels like I'm trying to climb a never ending sand dune, with my legs filled with concrete and pulling against a bungee cord; it's exhausting. As a result, I can only work part time. I also suffer pain from the moment I wake up, to the moment I fall asleep."

Kath Foot, who runs the south Wales MS Society fundraising group added: "Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a neurological condition that affects the nerves. You get it when your immune system isn't working properly. Your immune system normally protects you by fighting off infection but in MS, it attacks your nerves by mistake. The symptoms are different in each person and it is a notoriously difficult disease to diagnose."

Adam Pedersen, director of family-run firm Topstak, said: "We are delighted to be able to support this worthwhile cause. It's very brave of Vicky to fundraise by doing a wing walk. Sponsorship means that all the money she raises can now go to the MS Society."

Barry Island development site on show in Cannes

THE Nell's Point development site at Barry Island was showcased at the largest property exhibition in the world in Cannes on March 12-15.

The annual Marche International des Professionals d'Immobilier (MIPIM) brings together thousands of investors, developers and other property professionals each year and is seen as an opportunity to attract international investment into the UK.

Nell's Point was promoted by the Department of International Trade (DIT) delegation at the conference as one of the best investment opportunities in Wales.

The council's regeneration and economic development teams have worked closely with the DIT to ensure the full potential of Barry Island was on show.

Cllr Jonathan Bird, cabinet member for regeneration and planning, said: "There is now unstoppable momentum behind the regeneration of Barry. The transformation of the town is perhaps most evident at Barry Island and the nearby Waterfront.

"With such momentum behind our work, we felt the time was right to seek a higher calibre of investor for the Nell's Point site. We want to work with ambitious people with serious plans for the resort.

"The Department of International Trade clearly recognises the potential of Barry Island and the Nell's Point site. It is only one of a handful of Welsh locations in their prospectus."

A council spokesperson said: "Further potential investment in the Vale will be sought by a delegation from the Cardiff City Region (CCR) who also showcased the recently launched Industrial and Economic Growth Plan at the event, as well as the Vale's Economic Prospectus, which also formed part of the CCR display.

"The plan is based on the region's strengths and maximises its opportunities. It highlights how south east Wales is primed for investment and as the gateway to both Wales and England, it occupies a strategic vantage point and is a key connectivity hub for investment and the flow of goods, technologies, people and ideas."

MB

Darcey is Barry's Miss Wales hopeful

DARCEY Corria, who lives in Barry, is a finalist in Miss Wales 2019 in Newport on Saturday, April 13.

The final takes place over three days with an 'Empowerment Day', an interview with the judging panel and a Miss Wales ball for finalists and their families, concluding with the grand final when the winner will be crowned Miss Wales and go on to represent her country at the Miss World event.

Darcey attended Barry Island Primary School where she was head girl. She also attended St Richard Gwyn High School in Barry and is now studying for her A-Levels at Bishop of Llandaff High School.

Darcey has learnt that pageants have come a long way over the years and are not just beauty competitions, but are about empowering young women, helping them build their self esteem and grow in confidence.

Darcey has been involved in charitable events to raise money for 'Beauty With a Purpose', the Miss Wales charity that helps poor, sick and disadvantaged people around the world.

As part of the fundraising, Darcey has walked three miles with the other Miss Wales finalists around Cardiff Bay in their wedge heels, and also took part in the Cardiff 5k Winter Warmer with proceeds going to the charity.

Sponsored by Helen Leech at Polished Nail Bar, Barry and Soraya Kelly for #theglovesareonfoundation that helps raise awareness of early detection of cancer, Darcey is an ambassador for the foundation and recently attended the Senedd with lots of inspiring people from around Wales.

Good luck, Darcey, in bringing the Miss Wales crown back to Barry.

Sarah Milne

Doors open for new Vale cabinet members

THE Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Cllr John Thomas, has announced two changes to the cabinet.

Cllr Ben Gray has replaced Cllr Gordon Kemp as Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health and Leisure while Cllr Kathryn McCaffer will take over from Cllr Geoff Cox as Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport.

Cllr Thomas said: "Social Care, Health and Leisure is an extremely important and challenging portfolio. The Vale's most vulnerable residents rely on our social care team and our leisure services improve the lives of thousands each week.

Currently chairman of the council's planning committee, Cllr Gray represents the Plymouth ward in Penarth.

The second change to the Cabinet sees Cllr McCaffer replace Cllr Cox as Cabinet member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport. Cllr Cox had previously decided to stand down from Cabinet to reduce his workload and has now brought this decision forward as a result of a period of ill health, from which he is recovering.

Cllr Thomas said: "In Cllr McCaffer, the Cabinet has gained an exceptionally committed and hardworking councillor who will bring a new energy to a portfolio that includes the Council's most visible services and those which touch the lives of the majority of residents every day."

Cllr McCaffer is currently chair of the Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee and also represents the Plymouth ward in Penarth.

CS

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Council confirms plans to 'move' village school

CAMPAIGNERS say they're not giving up fighting plans to 'close' a Vale of Glamorgan primary school which was approved by the council.

The Vale Council's ruling body has given its final approval to move Llancarfan Primary School to a new £4m building five miles away in Rhoose.

In this instance, the council is calling the plan a 'migration' while campaigners against the plan call it a closure.

The cabinet voted five against one in favour of the plans which would see the rural primary school move to a 210-place new building with a part-time nursery for 48 pupils.

Cabinet member Gordon Kemp, who is a governor at the school voted against the proposals and said he feared the new school could become a "white elephant".

Cllr Kemp has now been replaced as cabinet member for social care, health and leisure by Cllr Ben Gray in a cabinet reshuffle.

The Action Committee to Save Llancarfan Primary School says it will take the fight to save the school to the Welsh Government.

The Vale Council has previously said the school would not close but undergo a "regulated alteration" under Welsh Government rules, and that the move would improve facilities available to pupils and cater for a growing population.

But Cllr Kemp told the cabinet meeting on March 18 he is unhappy at the proposals and that an "opportunity was not taken" to engage with the community, and said the project risks becoming a "white elephant".

He said: "I don't think the numbers proposed for the new school is going to come to what is considered. I'm concerned that a school will be opened in Rhoose that is not going to come up with the 210 places it's going to be built for."

The council now has to submit a business case and agree funding for the proposal.

Andy Farquharson, on behalf of the Save Llancarfan School Committee, said: "The cabinet decided this a long time ago and have continued to push on regardless of public opinion. It's sad the council didn't listen to the residents of the Vale and are not able to see the benefits of a rural school.

"It sets a dangerous precedent for all rural schools in Wales. This matter will still be challenged with the Welsh Assembly Government – it is not a done deal."

The age range of the school would be expanded from four to 11 to three to 11, and staff and pupils from the existing primary would be transferred over to the new building.

It comes as hundreds of new homes are expected to be built in the Rhoose area.

A Vale Council spokesman said: "The council's cabinet has approved the proposal to reconfigure primary provision in the Western Vale by moving Llancarfan Primary School to a new school site in Rhoose.

"This will extend the school's age range from 4-11 to 3-11, increase its capacity and provide pupils with a more modern learning environment. The change should be implemented from September 1 2021 and the council will work with all stakeholders to ensure as smooth a transition as possible."

Matt Discombe
Local democracy reporter

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'Parking charges at country parks not fair on public' says councillor

A VALE councillor says he strongly opposes the introduction of car parking charges at local country parks.

The proposals are in a report that went this week to the Vale Cabinet outlining a new parking management policy. At Cosmeston Lakes and Porthkerry Country Park charges are proposed all year round with up to two hours parking for £1 and all day set at £3. Bus and coach parking would be £10 all day. The charges would be applicable from 8am to 6pm, seven days per week.

Permits would be available for £75 per car park per annum. Disabled people with blue badges would be able to park free of charge. But independent Cllr Kevin Mahoney, who represents represents Sully, Cosmeston and Lavernock, said it was unfair on residents.

He said: "It's a complete disgrace to charge for parking at Cosmeston Park. Vale residents already pay for the upkeep of this park through their rates.

"The report actually says that the majority of responses opposed charges at Cosmeston but then carries on recommending them anyway. So why does the Vale yet again employ consultants to carry out consultations that alter nothing, encouraging people to send in their views and objections only to be ignored?

"The report rather condescendingly mentions that charges at Cosmeston will only apply between 8am and 6pm in order to allow Vale residents free access to the park outside those times. Residents will have to make sure they don't forget their torches while trying to enjoy a country park that we are all paying for anyway."

Cllr Mahoney believes some people will be tempted to park on the nearby estate: "There will be huge implications for the residents of Lavernock Park, who will find their estate clogged up with the cars of people who won't contemplate paying so much as 20p to park their car. This was even acknowledged and marked out in the initial report."

He said he had refused to apply for a parking permit for the councillors' reserved parking area at the Civic Offices and added: "Yet again there is no mention of parking charges being introduced at council offices at the Civic Offices in Holton Road, the Docks Office or the Alps which currently provide free and reserved parking areas for the officers and councillors making these decisions."

The Vale Council says it has had to look at parking charges because of a reduced financial settlement from the Welsh Government. The report will be considered by a scrutiny committee.

Emma Reed, the head of neighbourhood services and transport, said: "Given the continual year on year reductions in the settlement afforded to this council by Welsh Government, the council must consider its approach to the management of car parking and other services.

"Widespread consultation took place on the various aspects of the draft parking strategy, including those relating to country parks, and all views were given full consideration as detailed in the report presented to cabinet.

"It is vital that we recoup the costs linked to car parking provision, as well as those associated with maintaining other areas such as our highly-regarded country parks. The charges proposed for country parks in 2019/20 are low, with a maximum charge of £3 per day, while an annual permit would cost £75, which works out as less than 25p per day. Under the proposals, before 8am and after 6pm, the country park car parks can be used for free.

"The Civic Offices car park is an office car park during the week and not a shoppers' car park like others in the town centre. On the weekends it is little used, despite being advertised as a free shoppers' car park. The parking policy does not set out a proposal to charge for this office car park during the next financial year, but this will be reviewed in the future."

The report will be considered by a scrutiny committee and after that it is likely to be approved.

TC

Beach café owner fears effect of parking charges in Llantwit Major

THE owner of The Beach Café at Llantwit Major says introducing local car park charges could damage her business.

The Vale Cabinet agreed a parking report this week which means the beach car park could face charges for eight months of the year with tariffs of £1 per hour and £3 all day. No charges would be made in November, December, January and February.

Maria Hughes, whose family has owned The Beach Café for almost 50 years, said charging at the beach car park would deter visitors. "It will definitely affect trade. A lot of people come here for their breakfast or a meal and they aren't going want to pay extra for parking.

"The surface of the car park isn't in a good condition and they shouldn't be charging for it. Years ago, a council took the car park off us by using a compulsory purchase order because they said parking had to be free." Mrs Hughes said she and her staff take responsibility for keeping the car park tidy.

Local councillor Gwyn John said charging at the beach wasn't justified because the surface was rough and full of potholes. He said he welcomed the fact that the parking report had ruled out local 'on-street' parking charges, but said in other areas – local car parks – the Vale Council had left the town "in limbo".

The Vale Council plans to consult with Llantwit Major Town Council on taking over three car parks: the Old School, Llantonian Hall and the Town Hall. A decision has yet to be made on the car park in Le Pouliguen Way.

Cllr John said: "Everything has been left in limbo. There are only 12 spaces at Llantonian Hall and 16 spaces at the Old School. Meters can cost around £2,500 to £3,000.

"The town hall car park (Vale Council-owned) needs to be resurfaced and properly lit and that would require capital investment. It's had no maintenance for donkey's years. The town council wouldn't take over the car park in its current condition either."

The parking report will go to a scrutiny committee, but measures to implement the changes could take place later in the year. The Vale Council says it has to make money from parking charges in the Vale because of a reduced financial settlement from the Welsh Government.

Emma Reed, the head of neighbourhood services and transport, said: "Given the continual year on year reductions in the settlement afforded to this council by Welsh Government, we must consider our approach to the management of car parking and other services across the Vale.

"Widespread consultation took place on the various aspects of our draft parking strategy and all views were given full consideration. This can be seen from the report that was considered by Cabinet on Monday.

"Like other town centre areas of the Vale, it is proposed not to charge for on-street parking in Llantwit Major. However, it is vital that we recoup the costs linked to car parking provision and that means that charges in certain areas may have to be introduced.

"We are looking forward to discussing the options for the town centre car parks in Llantwit Major and subject to Cabinet's agreement we will be contacting them in early May 2019 to move the matter forward."

The report will be considered by a scrutiny committee and after that it is likely to be approved.

TC

Policy provides support for care leavers through university

A NEW policy for supporting care leavers through their university and higher education studies has been agreed by Bridgend County Borough Council.

Previously, the council's financial support has enabled young people to meet the costs of term time and vacation accommodation, pay for tuition fees and receive weekly maintenance payments. The new policy continues to ensure that care leavers are not disadvantaged financially, but it gives them more personal responsibility for their finances and future.

The policy explains that the council will help all care leavers with their applications for a tuition fee loan which they (like all other students) only start to pay back once they earn a salary over £25,000. The care leavers will also receive a Welsh Government Living Costs Grant of £8,100 a year which can be used to cover accommodation and living costs and doesn't need to be paid back.

They will also have the option of taking out an additional £900 loan should they require it, while BCBC will provide each of its care leavers with an allowance of £25 per week during term time, as well as a bursary in addition to the grants they are entitled to access. The £667 bursary will be paid at the completion of each academic year (£2,000 over three years) to support the student during their summer vacation.

The council will also offer a 'start up' grant to help the student buy the basics for independent university living such as bedding, kitchen utensils and a laptop. If a student finds themselves in particularly difficult personal circumstances that are affecting their studies, then the council can make additional discretionary payments.

The new financial arrangements in support of care leavers were first presented to Cabinet Members from BCBC in the autumn and have now been ratified as an official policy.

The impact of the council's new 'University Support Packages for Care Leavers Policy' will be reviewed in 12 months' time.

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This film certainly isn't What Men (or women) Want!

WAY back in 2000, Mel Gibson received a (fictional) bang on the head and discovered he could hear the opposite sex's most intimate thoughts in *What Women Want*.

Nineteen years later the genders have swapped but the core remains the same in *What Men Want*, which sees Taraji P Henson play sports agent Ali Davis. A woman in a predominantly male-dominated work environment, she's constantly looking for the edge over her colleagues.

Hoping to find answers from a psychic, Ali drinks a concoction that suddenly allows her to hear what men are thinking and, using her new ability, begins to use it to her advantage...

The concept of *What Women Want* was a neat conceit, one that allowed for a comedy of the sexes, and one that, particularly at this point in time, was more than ripe to be gender-swapped and tackled again.

It's unfortunate then that *What Men Want* ends up being such a turgid and laugh-lacking effort, a film that squanders the premise and the talented cast with a script that doesn't really get going and, for a film that clocks in at nearly two hours, drags out a story that moves in ever more predictable circles.

In theory, Taraji P Henson's Ali should be easy to root for – marginalised in her efforts at work by a male-oriented attitude from her superiors and passed over for partner several times, her struggle is one that feels all too real. Yet the script and performance paint her as a overbearing, bossy and selfish character, one whose shortcomings, rather than used playfully to be redeemed at a later date, are ramped up without any desire to make changes.

Henson, who is a talented actress, seems an awkward fit for the broad strokes of the comedy here – all too often she is reduced to overacting and overplaying the jokes, while the cast around her suffer from a severe case of blandness with the exception of Tracy Morgan's surreal turn as the father of one of Ali's prospective clients, and Eryka Badu's part-time psychic who sets the plot in motion, though neither of these turns would have half the appeal in a better film.

SCREEN TALK with GARETH JAMIESON

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Director Adam Shankman's CV is littered with middling comedies, and though he doesn't disgrace himself behind the camera neither does he cover himself in any kind of glory, the direction having the identikit feel of a early-noughties comedy (ironic given its source material), bringing litte energy or excitement to proceedings.

There are a couple of funny lines, but on the whole the humour is leaden and predictable, and it is a shame given the comic pedigree in front of the camera that not enough is done with them.

There was almost certainly a way of updating and modernising *What Women Want* to reflect the times we live in now, but this is most definitely not that film; the message, while commendable, comes without any subtlety and at points feels forced down your throat, where a defter touch would have been more smartly used.

It just means that *What Men Want* is a waste of everyone's time and effort: a film that reinforces stereotypes that grew tired a long time ago – this is something that regardless of gender, you most definitely don't want.

VERDICT - A weak update of *What Women Want*, *What Men Want* tries to give the story a relevancy and prescience but doesn't land; the humour is lacking, the film's message laboured and heavy-handed, and ultimately it's a forgettable piece of work. Poor.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *What Women Want* (2000), *Oceans Eight* (2018).

Charity campaigner is left touched by numerous messages of support

THE remaining funds of the Vale charity, the Ed Evans Foundation, have been gifted to local cancer charities and good causes.

The GEM recently reported that the foundation, which raised more than £500,000 to support people living with cancer and for cancer research, was to close.

Sue Evans, who ran the foundation with help from her family, said: "The Ed Evans Foundation would like to express its thanks to everyone for the many letters, emails and phone calls they have received since closing the charity. Having your continued support has been greatly appreciated.

"We are pleased to say that the remaining funds have now been donated towards a range of local cancer charities, as well as supporting local worthy causes."

PACT in the Vale

GIBBONSDOWN 'Cuppa with a Copper' is held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry, between 10am and 12 noon.

BUTTRILLS PACT will be held at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, at 6.30pm on Thursday, April 4.

Meet your local officers at PENARTH Library on Thursday, April 4 between 11am and 12 noon.

There will be a police surgery at LLANTWIT MAJOR Library on Tuesday, April 9 between 10.30am and 11.30am.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, contact 101 for non emergencies or see www.southwales.police.uk for contact details for your local PCSO; contact them directly for non emergency matters.

News in brief

Highlight Park Cuppa

AN invitation to come along and make friends twice a month every second and fourth Monday. Our next meeting is on Monday, March 25 from 2.30pm to 3.30pm at Highlight Park Community Centre.

Gardening club

THE next meeting of the Cowbridge Gardening Club will be on Thursday, March 28 at 7pm in the Lesser Hall. The speaker will be Aisling Judge on 'Growing something different'. New and returning members all welcome.

U3A open day

COWBRIDGE U3A will be holding an open day on Saturday, March 30 from 10am-1pm in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge Town Hall. Refreshments available; all welcome. See www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge for further information.

Cowbridge Art Society

ON March 21 CAS welcomes a new demonstrator – Serena Phillips (www.facebook.com/SerenaPhillipsArtwork) who will demonstrate painting a pet portrait in pastels.

The following week is the last meeting of the spring term and there will be an illustrated lecture by Eleanor Bird from Monmouth. The title will be Modernism and Abstraction: Key Moments in Art.

CAS has annual calendar and art competitions and holds a number of social events; we meet on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm – 9pm) and occasional visitors (small fee) and new members are most welcome. For details see www.facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas or Instagram#cowbridgeartsociety.

Cooking demos

BACK by popular demand, Topstak has announced two cooking demonstrations on March 28 and March 30.

Under the spotlight will be the popular electric range cooker, the Everhot. To book a place on the cooking demonstration, visit www.topstak.co.uk or call 01446 771567.

Ayckbourn comedy at CADS

CADS (Cowbridge Amateur Dramatics Society) presents 'Taking Steps' a comedy by Alan Ayckbourn on April 3 – 6 in The Market Theatre (by the Scout Hall); 7.30pm curtain, tickets £7.50 from WG Davies newsagents. Doors and Jim's Bar open 7pm.

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Hughes Farriers have the knowledge and experience

BRIAN and Mike Hughes and Rory Hill, Farriers, have three registered farriers in the business.

Brian Hughes RSS, with nearly 50 years of experience and a lifetime's interest in horses, is now only offering support and advice.

Mike Hughes DipWCF, who was brought up with horses and ponies, is interested in modern remedial techniques and is currently studying for his BSc (Hons) Farriery at Myerscough College.

Rory Hill DipWCF, the youngest of the team, is familiar with the more recent developments in shoeing and shoemaking.

All work extensively with the local veterinary practices, and all three are registered with the Farriers Registration Council.

From racehorses to show-jumpers, eventers to show ponies, hunters to happy hackers – between them they have the knowledge and experience, using both traditional and modern techniques, to solve most equine foot problems.

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Posh Pawz is in its sixth year of pampering

OWNER Kath Phillips offer a full range of grooming services including free face trimming, nail clipping and anal glands in between appointments.

If your furry friend is suffering the effects of the wet winter, then book them in for springtime freshen up baths from £10 (depending on breed). There is also a range of harnesses, collars, leads and treats on sale.

The salon has recently been refurbished and is fully air conditioned and heated to ensure your "furbaby" has the best time at their spa day.

Emmi Pet Ultrasonic non-invasive teeth treatment is now also available to keep the build up of plaque and tartar at bay.

Early bookings is always advisable, for more information call Kath on 01446 710044/07974776620 and follow Posh Pawz on Facebook and Twitter, or visit poshpawzsalonandspa.co.uk

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Your chance to help the Dogs Trust

DID you know that your unwanted household ornaments, clothing, electrical goods and DVDs could help raise money for dogs in need of new loving homes?

Local Dogs Trust Cowbridge charity shop is reminding anyone who might have had or is planning a spring clean to think of them when it comes to finding new homes for their pre-loved items.

All proceeds from sales go towards helping each of the 15,000 dogs the UK's largest dog welfare charity cares for every year.

Whether you're ready to donate or want to pick up a bargain, pop down to our shop between Monday and Saturday from 9am-5pm.

We are looking for Dogs Trust Shop Volunteers!
Could you spend a few hours a week to help in our **Cowbridge** shop?
Email your application to us at **charityshops@dogstrust.org.uk** or **pop into the shop**!
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Llantwit school trials new 'drop-off' system

A LLANTWIT Major primary school is to trial a new system for dropping off children in the mornings after parents were told they couldn't use a nearby car park.

Parents of pupils who attend Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant on Ham Lane East in Llantwit Major have not been allowed to use the school car park for reasons of safety and congestion. Instead they have used the adjacent leisure centre car park but were told on March 15 that they couldn't drop off youngsters there either.

A letter from the school said using the car park was causing a 'serious health and safety issue' and went on '… I regret to inform you that from Monday, March 18, the leisure centre car park is not to be used by Dewi Sant parents to drop off or collect pupils at any time'.

One concerned parent, Elenid Carlig, said: "Many parents do not live locally and travelling in the car is a necessity. There are also parents who need to drive on to work because it is out of the area."

She said parents had been prevented from parking on Ham Lane East and the options for parents were very limited.

She added: "No one has actually advised us where we can park safely."

Over the weekend, parents contacted councillors asking them to look into the issue.

The leisure centre car park is already used by people playing sport, Ysgol Y Ddraig and the comprehensive school.

This week a Vale Council spokesperson said a trial had been agreed to sort out the problem: "Unfortunately, it was not considered appropriate for the car park at Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant to be used as a drop-off and pick-up point by parents and carers for reasons relating to safety and congestion.

"After being made aware of this, some started using the car park shared by Llantwit Major School, Ysgol Y Ddraig and Llantwit Major Leisure Centre, which was not designed for this purpose and is similarly unsuitable.

"It is up to individual schools how they manage the drop-off facilities they have available, but there is no requirement to provide such amenities for parents.

"Instead, they are encouraged to park on-street outside the school premises, take advantage of opportunities to cycle or walk to school or use the school transport available.

"However, in this case, Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant is trialling a new system in which parents wishing to take advantage of the breakfast club can drive into school and pause briefly while their children are collected by staff. Hopefully, this will help address the matter."

TC

News in brief

Illustrated talk

ON Saturday, March 23 from 1pm – 3pm there will be an illustrated talk by painter Professor Gerda Roper: 'A Survey of Women Artists' to celebrate International Women's Day and the Women's Art Show.

All exhibitors in the Women's Open exhibition on show, and members of Art Central Friends, are invited, but a small charge of £2 will be made to any other other guests attending which will contribute towards the refreshments provided.

Tractor Run

THE Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing & Hedging Society will run the annual Tractor Run on Sunday, March 24 organised by the Tractor Boys of Aberthin, with the kind permission of Frank Sutton, St Mary Hill.

The tractors will gather at Frank Sutton's yard for a 9.30am start and all money raised will be donated to the Parkinson's Trust in memory of the late John Watts, who was a loyal supporter of the society. Anyone wishing to support the charity and tractor run will be very welcome to join the gathering at 9.30am. Refreshments will be on hand and there will be a charity raffle.

Work begins on £3.5 million project in Barry

From left: Marc Jehu, Cllr Margaret Wilkinson, Cllr Andrew Parker, Cllr John Thomas, Cllr Julie Aviet, Miles Punter (VoGC Director of Environment and Housing).

WORK has begun on a £3.5 million project at Brecon Court in Barry.

Developer Jehu Group is constructing 28 homes on the former sheltered accommodation site, and when complete, the scheme will consist of nine two-bedroom houses, four three-bedroom family houses and 15 one-bedroom apartments reserved for older people.

The scheme is part-funded by the Welsh Government.

Homelessness prevention model shortlisted for award

THE Vale Council's homelessness prevention model has been shortlisted for UK Housing Awards' Homelessness Project of the Year.

The shortlist was made by the council's Housing Solutions and Social Services departments and Llamau, Wales' leading homelessness charity.

A council spokesperson said: "The model is designed to reconnect young people with their parents, schools, and care-givers and facilitate a positive transition into adulthood.

"The council's Young Persons Gateway, facilitated by its Supporting People team, offers a single point of access for supported accommodation and streamlines the process of application, referral and assessment.

"Llamau's One Stop Advice Shop provides a mediation service to help young people reconnect with their families, support them while they are in alternative accommodation and help them access benefits."

Llamau helps to support some of the most vulnerable young people in the Vale and at 236 Holton Road, Barry, its doors are open to all.

Cllr Andrew Parker, cabinet member for housing and building services for the Vale Council, said: "Homeless young people have different needs to adults, ones that can, at first be hidden or linked to disadvantaged childhoods or adverse childhood experiences.

"We've worked hard to forge relationships across the authority; Children's Services liaise with our Supporting People team, for instance, while communicating with external companies like Careers Wales to help with access to education and employment for young people."

Joe Payne, Head of Bridgend, Cardiff and Vale Services and Family Mediation for Llamau, said: "Early intervention work and family mediation will prevent homelessness wherever possible and seek to maintain a young person in their home environment unless it is unsafe or inappropriate.

"Joined-up assessment processes then ensure that a young person needing accommodation is referred to the most appropriate form of accommodation, with the right level of support."

If you are a young person at risk of becoming homeless, or know of someone who would benefit from advice and support, contact the Council on 01446 748852.

Choir's nightingales sang in Grosvenor Square*

ON March 8, 63 choristers from Cowbridge Male Voice Choir, led by musical director Rhiannon Williams and accompanist Sandra Williams, set off to perform two engagements at five star hotels in London.

The first engagement was at the Grosvenor Square Hotel, where the choir were to sing at the 'Best in Wales' gala dinner held in aid of Velindre. The event was very well supported and was a sell out.

The choir sang, at first, in the champagne reception, performing a range of numbers showing the diversity of their repertoire. They then moved into the dining area and onto the stage.

The choir were asked to open proceedings by singing the Welsh national anthem: this they did by singing a new arrangement by Rhiannon Williams. This was followed by more from their repertoire.

They then headed for the Sheraton Grand in Piccadilly to perform at a private function. Having completed the engagement, the choir retired to the bar and entertained residents and visitors to a typical 'afterglow'.

All good things must come to an end, and the choir left a wet London to return to Cowbridge, having successfully flown the flag for Cowbridge and Wales!

FM

**GEM note: We know it should be Berkeley Square but...*

Barry-based author publishes first novel - and The GEM has a copy to give away!

A BARRY-based author, Catherine Blackmore, has published her debut novel, but it is not for the faint-hearted.

Can't You Just Get Over It? is described as a psychological thriller, and with supernatural overtones.

The blurb begins thus…

An expressionless figure haunts Emily's dreams. Night after night, he pursues her, and night after night, she wakes as he stabs her.

When she starts seeing the figure at work and hearing voices, Emily begins to worry that her nightmares are becoming a reality. Something or someone is doing this to her, and as Hallowe'en grows closer and the nightmares get worse, she begins to worry for her sanity.

Desperate for answers, Emily struggles against the disbelief of everyone around her as she searches for a way to reclaim her life from her nightmares.

A work of fiction perhaps, but it is a little more personal for Ms Blackmore.

She said: "I wrote as a hobby for many years, but suddenly, I lost my way. So I decided to take up a free course at The Open University. I loved the course, so I started a degree in English and Creative Writing and am currently in my second year.

"I started to write this book in the hope that I would find it therapeutic, as I battle with the same phobia as in the book.

"However, the emotions that resurfaced were painful at times and sometimes overwhelming, but it pushed me to continue writing and finish the book."

One lucky reader could win a copy of *Can't You Just Get Over It?* by answering this question:

What is an isobar?

Is it: a. a pub carved from frozen water; b. a form of exercise using weights; c. A line on a weather map linking areas of equal pressure.

Entries must be sent by email to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk with the subject heading BLACKMORE COMPETITION followed by your initials, or by post (on a postcard or the back of a sealed-down envelope) to The Glamorgan GEM, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL, and received no later than noon on Monday, March 25, 2019.

Please include your full name, postal address, and email address so that you can be contacted if you are the winner.

The winner will be the first correct entry drawn out of a hat after that date, and must visit The GEM's office in Cowbridge to collect the book from the author and to have a photograph taken with her for publication in print and online.

Only one entry per person, the Editorial Team's decision is final, no correspondence will be entered into, and no cash alternative is available.

Take part in Great British Spring Clean!

FOLLOWING the success of last year's Big Rural Spring Clean, The Countryside Alliance is thrilled to announce its support of this year's Great British Spring Clean (March 22 to April 23) by becoming a community partner and coordinating an event in support of this initiative run by Keep Britain Tidy.

The Countryside Alliance's Countryside Clean Up will be held on April 6 and 7 and we will be encouraging all of our members to organise a litter picking event in their local area.

Countryside Alliance's Polly Portwin said: "This is a fantastic initiative which we are very pleased to be supporting by organising our own Countryside Clean Up. Not only is discarded litter an eyesore, but it is potentially hazardous to farmed livestock, wild animals and domestic pets and by joining all groups together that use the countryside we hope to make a difference."

Chief Executive of Keep Britain Tidy, Allison Ogden-Newton commented: "The Great British Spring Clean is an opportunity for the millions of people who care about the environment on their doorstep to do something positive that will make a visible difference. Without the support of groups like the Countryside Alliance we would not be able to make that difference and we thank them for their support."

To find out more about the Countryside Clean Up and to sign up, visit the Countryside Alliance's website at: www.countryside-alliance.org/countrysidecleanup.

AM attends anti-racism rally

JANE Hutt AM stood with the Muslims of Wales and the Vale of Glamorgan at the Temple of Peace at the anti-racism rally on Saturday.

She said: "The 'Standing with Christchurch' Vigil at the Temple of Peace and Health Vigil with Muslim Council of Wales and Citizens Cymru, and joining the March against Racism on Saturday gave me the opportunity to speak up for our Muslim community in Wales."

Chrysti prepares for London Marathon with a rookie runner and a dachshund called Chip

WHEN Chrysti Thompson fulfilled a lifetime ambition by signing up for the London Marathon, her husband Leighton thought he would do too – despite having no running experience.

Not for him the gradual preparation of informal park runs, building to 10ks and half marathons, his first race will be the country's iconic running event on April 28. "I don't mess around," he joked.

The couple from Penarth who are running in aid of the children's charity Barnardo's have been training together since the autumn and Chrysti, who has run all her adult life is rather cross that Leighton is now outrunning her.

"He's always been fit and he has taken to running really well. He finds it much easier than me, although he has promised to slow down on the day so we can run the course together!" she said.

The couple's Dachshund Chip has also been training with them, joining them on their shorter runs.

"We haven't gone further than three miles with him as he has such short legs but he loves it," said Chrysti, 31, who works as an estate agent.

Leighton, Chip and Chrysti.

She has a long history of running and ran the Cardiff Half in 2013. "Competing in the London Marathon is a real bucket list thing for me. I watch it on the television every year and get really emotional, I will probably cry all around the course!

"I used to live in London and love the city so I'm really looking forward to enjoying what will be a very special atmosphere," said Christi.

Training has proved a really big commitment for the couple. Leighton, 30, who runs his own property maintenance firm, said: "Once I knew Chrysti was running for Barnardo's I couldn't let her have all the fun. She is so self-motivated and I thought it was a good opportunity to tag along.

"As time has gone on I think she's been grateful to have me there too as the hardest thing is going out in the rain and wind to train and we've been able to motivate each other."

Sarah Crawley, director of Barnardo's Cymru, said: "We are so grateful to Chrysti and Leighton for taking on this challenge for Barnardo's.

The money they raise will help make a real difference to some of the most vulnerable children, young people and families we support through our services."

Barnado's Cymru

A portrait of Sir David, 'butt' with an environmental message

BARRY Island Primary School children received a science lesson with a difference when an artist unveiled a portrait of Sir David Attenborough – made entirely from cigarette butts.

The portrait of the naturalist and environmental campaigner, created by Welsh artist Nathan Wyburn, was unveiled at the school last week

It was commissioned by Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) Wales, which has joined forces with Keep Wales Tidy to raise awareness of the damage caused by discarded cigarette butts, which contain plastic and often end up in our waterways and oceans.

According to Keep Wales Tidy, last year cigarette butts were found on 80.3 per cent of streets in Wales, making them the most littered item in the country. They are not biodegradable and contain plastic, remaining in the environment for up to 15 years. Cigarette filters contain harmful chemical ingredients including arsenic, lead and nicotine, that pollute waterways and the toxins in tobacco residue endanger animals.

Suzanne Cass of ASH Wales said: "This year we wanted to use No Smoking Day as an opportunity to raise awareness of the environmental impact of cigarette butts and there is a very serious message behind Nathan Wyburn's portrait.

Nathan Wyburn with pupils at Barry Island Primary School.

"Through the BBC series Blue Planet, Sir David Attenborough has shown the devastating impact plastic is having on our oceans.

"Many smokers do not know the damage cigarettes do to the planet, and we hope that by making people more aware of the impact, it might give them an extra incentive to kick this highly addictive habit."

A survey carried out by Keep Britain Tidy last year found that less than half of smokers know that cigarettes contain plastic. Meanwhile 10 per cent think cigarettes are biodegradable.

Mary Poppins, a Hungry Caterpillar and a wizard walk into Barry Library…

A HOST of enthusiastic young readers descended on Barry recently, as the library's World Book Day event welcomed a number of interesting characters to King Square.

Residents were invited to attend the fancy dress competition and take part in a whole range of children's literature-inspired activities.

Using their favourite books for ideas, the young readers were asked to get creative and design their own book covers.

This was followed by a library treasure hunt quiz, as the young book worms embarked on a frantic search for book-themed answers hidden amongst the book cases.

Cllr Bob Penrose, cabinet member for learning and culture for the Vale Council, said: "We have fabulous facilities at Barry Library and it was fantastic to see and hear about their recent World Book Day event.

"Staff at the library work very hard to engage our young residents and inspire more young people to read, so it was encouraging to see so many children take part in the event."

Staff at the library awarded prizes to those who won the 'best dressed' and 'Design a Book Cover' competitions.

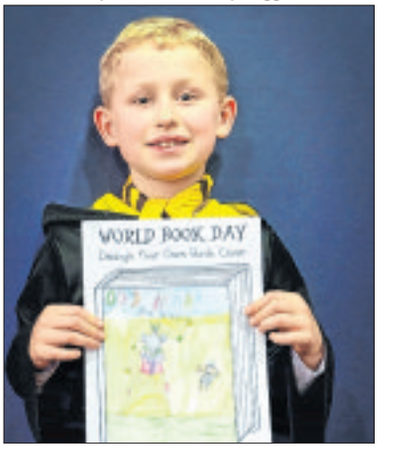
Joshua was named best dressed for his Hungry Caterpillar costume, while Lacey finished runner-up as Mary Poppins.

Noah came first in the 3-6 year old 'Design a Book Cover' competition and Sebastian won the 7 years and above category.

The library is now preparing for a string of events throughout spring, including a range of Easter-themed craft events.

For more information on libraries in the Vale of Glamorgan, visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/libraries.

Lacey dressed as Mary Poppins.



Sebastian with his winning book cover design.

Vale Ramblers help clean up

DESPITE Hurricane Gareth [*GEM note: it was a storm, not a hurricane*] being in full strength this week, it didn't stop eight members from the Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers, in partnership with Keep Wales Tidy, taking part in our first litter pick.

The area chosen was in the Dinas Powys and Penarth area, where in two hours the group collected 16 bags of rubbish. We are aiming to make this a regular feature in our quest to keep the Vale tidy; if there are any areas in the Vale that could do with some TLC (not fly tipping, as we don't have the right equipment) please let us know.

With the arrival of spring and a new programme, we look forward to our Wednesday evening walks which will commence in April.

New for the summer programme will be the introduction of monthly shorter local walks: there will be a walk in the morning, followed by in some instances the walk being repeated in the afternoon.

The pilot of this scheme proved to be very popular. The walk for March was in the Southerndown area, while the more hardy of the members had a rather windy walk in the Skenfrith area.

Further information is available at www.ramblers.co.uk/vale of glamorgan, follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Gwenda Fitzpatrick

Fairtrade Fortnight goes down a treat in Barry

ON March 9, Cadoxton Methodist Church teamed up with Barry Town Council to host a 'Fair Bake' coffee morning during Fairtrade Fortnight.

Cakes made with Fairtrade ingredients and Fairtrade biscuits were donated by the church and Fairtrade tea and coffee was provided by Barry Town Council.

All proceeds were donated to the Fairtrade Foundation.

Ruth Bennett, the church's representative on the council's Fairtrade advisory committee, said the church had been a big supporter of the movement over many years.

She said: "We all expect to be paid fairly, so I think we should also expect to pay fairly. More Fairtrade means more farmers getting a guaranteed minimum price they can rely on, allowing them to provide for their families and invest in their communities. Partnering with Barry Town Council for the coffee morning was a great way to promote Fairtrade and our commitment to the social movement."

Last year, Barry had its Fairtrade status renewed after the foundation confirmed the town council had met all five principles.

Barry Town Council Fairtrade committee chair, Cllr Ian Johnson, said: "This has been a very exciting Fairtrade Fortnight in Barry, with events ranging from distributing bananas at football matches, to church services and the Cadoxton Methodist Church Fairtrade cake bake.

"Fairtrade is about recognising that our individual choices can make a real difference to workers across the world.

"It's great to see Barry being at the heart of this."

For all the latest news from your area - **glamorgan-gem.co.uk**

Reception and Year 1 pupils had fun supporting Comic Relief.

Ysgol Gwaun y Nant dance to support Comic Relief

PUPILS at Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant ditched their usual school uniform and dressed up in red for the day to support Comic Relief.

Year-2 pupils led a whole school assembly where they informed pupils and parents of the good work that the charity does to help others across the world.

During the afternoon, a Danceathon was held for the whole school.

Rhydian Lloyd, headteacher, said: "Year-2 have been learning about people who help them. It is also important that they learn that they are able to help others by supporting a charity. The fact that they are doing so while having lots of fun is an added bonus!"

Work of autism centre is praised

Paul Watkins and Shane Williams with staff at the autism centre.

FORMER rugby star Paul Watkins and Welsh winger Shane Williams have been visiting care and support centres in the UK to see how the Wooden Spoon charity helps them with funding.

Mr Watkins, who lives in Rhoose, said: "Shane and I visited the autism centre in Tonypandy and it was great to see where our fundraising is used. "They have sensory and activity rooms that are designed to make youngsters' lives that little bit easier. I met James and his dad who really rely on the facility. I gave James my Wooden Spoon hat, and his dad said he'd find it difficult to get it off him.

"It is very hard for parents to juggle work and caring commitments and the centre helps them get a rest."

Wooden Spoon is rugby's children's charity, and Messrs Watkins and Williams are leaving on a fundraising trip to Everest next month.

TC

Primary visit for Vale MP

ON March 15, Key Stage 2 pupils were delighted to welcome local MP Alan Cairns to Oak Field Primary School.

Mr Cairns took time out from his extremely busy schedule to discuss with the children his role as a Member of Parliament and how he is able to represent the children's views.

The children from year 4 (Pine) had important questions to ask about their own campaign to protect their local environment and to stop littering in and around their school.

Mr Cairns said that he would have a word with his 'boss' when he meets her next.

A huge thank you from all the children for coming to discuss these important issues.

Nicola Danielsen

Fundraising award for Barry Sea Cadets

Cadets at the ceremony.

BARRY Sea Cadets was the top cadet fundraisers in the Vale for the 2018 Poppy Appeal, and received a trophy from the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Duncan Cantley, at a ceremony in Penarth last week.

OC Cadets Edwards and Hughes represented the Barry Sea Cadets at the ceremony last week, along with Petty Officer Alison Edwards. PO Edwards said: "Cadets from the Barry Unit worked tirelessly through October and early November in the days leading to Remembrance Sunday.

"They did a great job and we applaud their efforts and those of all the cadet units that helped."

The Poppy Appeal is the British Legion's biggest fundraising campaign with every poppy sold supporting the British Armed Forces past and present, and their families.

Barry Sea Cadets parade on Monday and Thursday evenings and if you are interested in joining, it can be contacted by email at barryseacadets@gmail.com.

NV

News in brief

Learn lip reading

LIP Reading Classes (£2 a session includes refreshments) are being held at Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry (CF63 4HD) on the following Fridays.

March 22, April 12, and April 26 from 1:30pm to 3:30pm;

May 10, June 14, and June 28 from 1:30pm to 4pm;

July 12 from 1:20pm to 4pm. For more information call Lucy at Wales Council for Deaf People on 07958 298822 or email Lucy@wcdeaf.org.uk.

Pre-season coffee morning

LLANTWIT Major Bowls Club are holding their pre-season coffee morning in the Llantonian Hall on Saturday, March 23 from 10am to 12 noon.

Entry £3 with free refill. Raffle/cake stall; open to all.

If you are interested in joining the club for the new season, please call in and get some details. We are always looking for new members/players.

FAN celebrates success

PALMERSTON Community Learning Centre FAN (Friends And Neighbours) group celebrated with a friend on the completion of her beauty course.

Our topic of the week was 'Dreams'; some of us remembered repetitive dreams from our childhood and others agreed that sometimes a dream was so pleasant that they didn't want to wake up, and even looked to continue it the next night.

We would like to welcome new people to Palmerston FAN to share our experiences over a free hot drink every Monday at 2pm. There is no charge or commitment and you do not have to book.

We also meet at Golau Caredig every Tuesday at 10.30am, and in Barry Library at 11.30am each Wednesday. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend.

For further information, email carolinefan2018@gmail.com.

Penarth brass bands are set to lose funding

Brass band performances in Penarth could become a thing of the past after a cut in funding.

THE chairman of Penarth Tourism and Visitor Association, Anthony Ernest, has called on Vale councillors to reject proposals to scrap £5,000 worth of funding for summer brass band concerts in the town.

The Vale Council says it has taken the action because of reducing budgets and pointed out it still supports a number of events in the town.

But Mr Ernest said abandoning the weekend concerts in the height of summer would strike at the heart of the summertime programme of events which brings thousands of people to the resort.

He said: "These concerts not only bring great pleasure to visitors but also to the many Penarthians who regularly enjoy a walk along the seafront at the weekend. Ending the concerts would take away one more well-loved event that helps keep the esplanade and pier bustling and lively at peak times of the holiday period.

"Not so many years ago, concert style music was played on Sunday afternoons over a loudspeaker in the Italian Gardens while people relaxed in deck chairs the length of the promenade.

"Now the deck chairs have gone, the recorded music has gone and the replacement by brass bands which came from former mining valleys to play to appreciative audiences looks like going as well.

"Regrettably the Vale has decided to put much of its tourism 'spend' into promoting Barry Island, while the budget for Penarth is very low in comparison, despite Penarth being the second largest town in the Vale and paying a substantially larger amount of council tax to the Vale."

He said the actual cost of staging the concerts is "remarkably low" because there are no venue costs and no staffing requirements.

He added: "The budget cut for 2019 of around £5,000 for these concerts is such a small sum in return for the income generated in the town. Councillors face the charge of not being alive to exactly what tourism actually brings to a Welsh resort. I sincerely hope they will reconsider their proposal."

A Vale Council spokeswoman said that in a climate of reducing budgets and growing financial pressures, the council had to allocate its limited funds carefully.

She explained: "Increasingly, we are encouraging events to become self-sufficient and sustainable by seeking their own sponsorship and income sources rather than relying on grants. That strategy allows the council to focus its limited funds on helping new innovative events to start up.

"After financing the brass band for more than a decade, unfortunately this year that will not be possible. However, we are supporting a range of other events in Penarth, including the summer festival, Christmas festival, Distinguished Gentleman's Ride and Carnival Penarth.

"We are also currently developing a #DiscoverPenarth campaign with Penarth Tourism and Visitor Association and Penarth traders which we will run alongside Visit Wales' Year of Discovery campaign.

"When deciding which events to support, it is important to consider such factors as the scope of their appeal as well as the economic and social benefit they provide."

TC

Costa Coffee drive thru creates 18 jobs

CONSTRUCTION work has started on a drive-thru coffee shop at Barry's Waterfront Retail Park which will create 18 jobs.

A Costa Coffee spokeswoman said: "We're excited about the opening of our brand new Costa Coffee drive thru store at Barry Waterfront, which is set to open with 18 jobs.

"We look forward to offering our customers the full range of food and drinks while dining in store or visiting the drive-thru, as well as being an active part of the local community by getting involved with events, providing the store as a meeting place and helping with fundraising."

An opening date will be announced shortly.

A severe case of Grand Slam fever hits Llantwit Major!

THERE was Grand Slam fever across Wales on Saturday afternoon and Llantwit Major was no exception.

Local photographer Andy Wicks captured excited Welsh fans preparing to watch the match at the rugby club, White Lion, Old White Hart and Kings Head.

It proved a historic day for Welsh rugby as Wales smothered Ireland 25-7 and secured a third Grand Slam under head coach Warren Gatland.

IMAGES by ANDY WICKS

Sully woman Linda pledges support in cancer TV campaign

A SULLY woman whose son and husband have both survived cancer is starring in Cancer Research UK's new nationwide TV awareness campaign called 'I Pledge'.

Linda Davies appears in a moving short film highlighting the charity's commitment to life-saving research, which is possible thanks to people who leave gifts in their Wills.

Linda, a grandmother-of-three, knows first-hand just how crucial research is to accelerate progress and ensure more people survive.

Linda said: "My son was diagnosed with testicular cancer when he was 26. He was about to get married and was going to be a father too.

"He had surgery a week before his wedding and went on honeymoon not knowing the type or severity of the cancer. That was 19 years ago and he and his wife now have two children.

"Since then, my dad died from cancer, and then my husband, Mike, was diagnosed with prostate cancer six years ago. All three experiences are the reasons why we need to support research.

"After my son and husband went through treatment, I wanted to say, 'thank you'.

"They have benefited from research and I wanted to help pass that gift on to others in the future so that they can benefit in the same way.

"That's why we set up a regular donation to Cancer Research UK and have also pledged a legacy.

"Going through cancer can be such a traumatic and dark time for a family, but leaving a legacy feels a very positive way of doing something about it. It means we can be optimistic about future treatments."

The new campaign encourages people to make a pledge – or promise – to leave something in their Wills to help beat cancer for future generations.

Linda appears alongside two Cancer Research UK scientists from Cardiff, who want to turn these pledges into new breakthroughs and create new hope.

Gifts in Wills fund over a third of the charity's research, helping to turn discoveries made in the lab into better treatments for cancer patients in Wales and across the UK.

Last year, Cancer Research UK spent around £4 million in Wales on some of the UK's leading scientific and clinical research.

Ruth Amies, Cancer Research UK spokesperson for Wales, said: "We hope Linda's commitment inspires as many people as possible to consider leaving a legacy to the charity. When someone writes Cancer Research UK into their Will, they are enabling long-term research projects that lead to new treatments and cures."

For more information, visit *cruk.org/pledge* or call 0800 035 9000 for a free Gifts in Wills guide.

PTA fundraiser at Llantwit Major Comprehensive

THE PTA of Llantwit Major Comprehensive School is holding a Pamper and Prosecco evening at the school on Friday, March 22 from 6.30pm to 9.30pm.

Entry is £5 (includes a glass of Prosecco). There will be six pamper providers, eight gift stalls, and a bar and food will be available. All are welcome.

Follow us on Facebook - **facebook.com/GlamorganGEM** and on Twitter - **@gem_news/@GEMSportsNews**

News in brief

Illustrated talk

ON Saturday, March 23 from 1pm – 3pm there will be an illustrated talk by painter and Professor Gerda Roper: 'A Survey of Women Artists' to celebrate International Women's Day and the Women's Art Show.

All exhibitors in the Women's Open exhibition, currently on show, and members of Art Central Friends (ACF), are invited but a small charge of £2 will be made to any other other guests attending, which will contribute towards the refreshments provided. This is an ACF sponsored event and our fourth artist talk of the year.

St Donats Chorale

THE St Donats Chorale's Easter concert will be held at All Saints' Church in Barry to help support the funds being raised to repair their roof.

The programme will include a selection from *The Armed Man Mass for Peace* by Karl Jenkins, who most musical commentators feel is the finest living Welsh composer of his time plus *The Requiem* by John Rutter. The choir will be supported by a professional soloist and orchestra.

Saturday, April 6 at 7.30pm is the date and time to put in your diaries; tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for full time students, and can be bought from the choir website at *www.stdonats.org*, or from Nickelby's Book Shop in Llantwit or Vic Hopkins & Son Butchers in Barry and at the church on the night of the concert.

PACT meetings

CAERAU PACT at Noddfa Community Centre on Monday, March 25 at 6pm.

Blackmill PACT at Blackmill Community Centre on Monday, March 25 at 6.30pm.

Sarn and Bryncoch PACT at Sarn Life Centre on Tuesday, April 2 at 7pm.

Ogmore Valley PACT at Dinam Close on Thursday, April 11 at 7pm.

Llangeinor PACT at the Richard Price Centre, Llangeinor on Wednesday, April 10 at 5.30pm.

Maesteg East, Maesteg West and Llangynwyd PACT at Cwm Calon Day Centre on Thursday, April 11 at 6pm.

Bettws PACT at Bettws Life Centre on Thursday, April 11 at 2pm.

Pyle/Cefn Cribwr/Cornelly PACT at Pyle Life Centre on Thursday, April 25 at 6.30pm.

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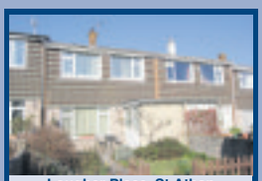
No Forward Chain.
£149,950 D56

Lougher Place, St Athan
3 Bedrooms
No Forward Chain
Well Presented
£149,950 D66

Heol Ger Y Felin, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. Shower Room/WC.
Extended. Conservatory.
Superb Presentation.
£229,950 D66

Sea View Place, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Driveway
No Chain
£209,950 D56

St Johns View, St Athan
2 Beds. No Chain
Garage. Driveway
Southerly Rear Garden
£210,000 E40



Lougher Place, St Athan
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Bedford Rise, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Double Driveway
Impressive Garden
£169,950 D61

Daniel Hopkin Close, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
No Forward Chain
Fronting onto Sea View Park
£229,950 C71

Drake Close , St Athan
3 Bedrooms
Corner Plot
Driveway. Garage
£179,950 D61

Monmouth Way, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Superb Kitchen/Diner
Cloakroom/WC
£239,950 D65

Carne Court, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Cloakroom/WC
Popular Location
£139,950 D63

Brecon Street, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Fully Renovated
Off road Parking
£159,950 C74

Daniel Hopkin Close, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. No Chain.
Kitchen/Diner
Driveway. Garage.
£224,950 D64

Eagleswell Road, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. Kitchen/Diner
Renovated Throughout
Ideal First Time Buy
£149,950 E48

Llanmaes Road, Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
2 Receptions
57' Driveway
£269,950 E52

Roberts Close, St Athan
3 Double Beds
Countryside Views
Lovely Presentation
£269,950 D68

Crawshay Drive, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. Driveway
Kitchen/Diner
Renovated Thoughout
£144,995 C72

Berry Court, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. No Chain
Kitchen/Diner
Renovated in 2018
£139,950 D67

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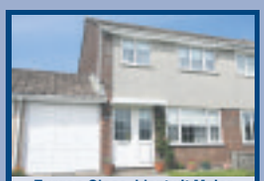

Eurgan Close, Llantwit Major
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Commonwealth Day celebrations at Barry school

YSGOL Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg hosted a Commonwealth Day celebration on March 11.

Athletes, politicians and the choir Only Men Aloud all joined the pupils. The event, which celebrated Team Wales' success at last year's Commonwealth Games in Australia, was star-studded.

The pupils welcomed the audience with their message of the importance of Commonwealth connections.

Dafydd Ellis Thomas, AM and Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism spoke of the importance of getting young people into sports, and highlighted how important the Commonwealth Games are, as Wales can compete as a country.

After the athletes took a question and answer session, the audience were captivated by the voices of the school's choir and Only Men Aloud. Together, they performed the Welsh classic 'Calon Lân'.

Following the concert, the primary school pupils were trained by the Welsh Commonwealth team, and inspired to follow their dreams to become future athletes. As they were interviewed by S4C's programme *Heno*, pupils talked of how they hope to continue to work hard in order to one day be able to represent Wales.

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg wishes to thank Team Wales for visiting the school and for choosing the school to host the celebrations. Diolch a phob lwc at y gemau nesaf.

Heledd Lewis

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French students meet the 'Women of the Dawn'

IT was the day the weather changed back from balmy summer to torrential winter. Gathered in Old Hall Gardens were the Cowbridge Charter Trust volunteer work party led by Richard Browning and the local branch of Merched y Wawr, led by Carys Whelan, who were about to plant three climbing roses to scramble over the wall, tossing scented beauty to flourish from a dark corner.

Suddenly our elderly group was augmented by tall, brightly dressed young people who had little or no English. Their guide explained that they were French students and that one of their tasks for the morning was to record someone speaking Welsh.

They really were in luck to find eight Welsh speakers in one place but it's a moot point whether they understood the finer points.

Carys explained that Merched y Wawr is the national women's movement with members throughout Wales and beyond, who meet to enjoy good company, and speaking and promoting the Welsh language.

They donated money to buy the roses, one of them being called New Dawn in their honour as Merched y Wawr means 'Women of the Dawn' in English.

This was duly recorded on one of the students' mobile phones with equal enthusiasm and bafflement: someone said the original question had concerned Welsh beer, but they seemed well pleased.

Carys performed the planting ceremony, adding special loam with a shiny trowel. Old Hall Gardens will be enhanced for years to come by summer months of lovely roses which will be enjoyed by all who walk through the gardens, and most of all by the members of Merched y Wawr who so generously endowed them.

(It's easy to join the volunteer work party: come along to Old Hall Gardens any Thursday morning between 9.30am and 12.30pm to talk to us!)

Linda Osborn

AR ddiwrnod llwydaidd yn y Fro, daeth criw o aelodau Merched y Wawr, Y Bontfaen at ei gilydd yng Ngardd yr Hen Neuadd. Roeddem wedi penderfynu cyfrannu coed rhosod i'r Ardd gan ddefnyddio rhodd o arian a gyflwynwyd i'r gangen.

Dan arweiniad Linda Osborn, un o'r Ymddiriedolwyr, penderfynwyd ar dri rhosyn dringo a fyddai'n rhoi lliw a phersawr ar ochor fewnol wal deheuol yr ardd. Roedd tîm o'r gwirfoddlwyr wedi paratoi'n drylwyr ar gyfer y plannu, ac fe gafodd sawl un ohonom ran yn y gwaith o blannu a sefydlu'r planhigion newydd.

Mae'r enw ar un ohonon nhw yn addas iawn ar ein cyfer – rhosyn o'r enw New Dawn, a ddewiswyd i adlewyrchu enw Merched y Wawr, y mudiad cenedlaethol sy'n gweithredu drwy gyfrwng yr iaith ac yn ymgyrch drosti yma yng Nghymru a thu hwnt.

CW

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Barry CF63 4RU
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H4U reference 210851

60+ Pref to apps with a medical priority
- One bed flat
- First Floor (lift)
- Step in Shower
- Warden/Alarm

Rent £126.00 per week inc water/alarm

WARWICK WAY, BARRY

H4U reference 227490

55+ Not suitable for applicants with mobility issues
- One bed bungalow
- Steps up to
- Wet room
- Community Alarm

Rent £108.44 per week inc water/alarm

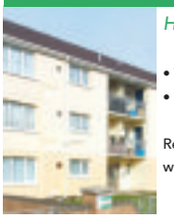
CEDAR WAY, PENARTH

H4U reference 238188

55+ Pref to apps with a med priority
- One bed flat
- Ground floor
- Level access shower
- Community Alarm

Rent £93.94 per week inc water/alarm

ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH (NO PETS)



H4U reference 245040

- Two Bed Flat
- First floor

Rent £100.67 per week inc water

CAMROSE COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 203705

55+ Pref to apps with a medical priority
- One bed bungalow
- Wet room
- Community Alarm

Rent £104.54 per week inc water

MICHAELSTON CLOSE, BARRY

H4U reference 216506

- Three bed house

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H4U reference 227799

40+ Pref to apps with a medical priority
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- Ground Floor
- Walk in Shower
- Alarm

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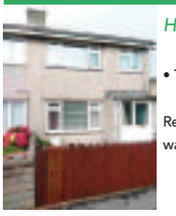

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ST JAMES COURT, PENARTH (NO PETS)

H4U reference 244838

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- First floor
- Alarm

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ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH (NO PETS)

H4U reference 245117

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- First floor
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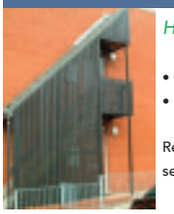

H4U reference 184624

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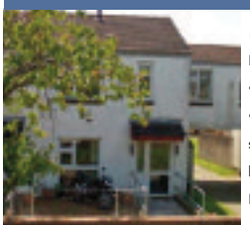
LLANMAES ROAD, LLANTWIT MAJOR READVERTISED



H4U reference 177023

Pref to apps with a medical priority
- Four bed house
- Adaptations: wide front door, Ceiling track, hoist in sitting room, rear entrance gate, wider ceiling track hoist from bedroom to bathroom.

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CAERWENT GARDENS, DINAS POWYS (NO IMAGE AVAILABLE)

United Welsh Housing Association together with The Vale of Glamorgan Council announces the new development at Caerwent Gardens, Dinas Powys. Expressions of interest are invited from Homes4U members. Local Lettings Policy applies.

8 x 2 bed houses - £113.97

6 x 1 bed flats (3 x ground floor / 3 x first floor) - £88.33

Service Charge to be confirmed

ST JAMES GARDENS, WICK (NO IMAGE AVAILABLE)

United Welsh Housing Assocaiation together with The Vale of Glamorgan Council announces the new development at St James Gardens, Wick. Expressions of interest are invited from Homes4U members. Local Lettings Policy applies.

2 x 2 bed houses - £113.97

Service charge to be confirmed.

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of the rented homes.
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All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.

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The Vales of Glamorgan Council will decide whether or not to grant consent, and if to grant will decide what conditions to grant.

Representation (including comments or questions) may be made in writing to the Council for 21 days from the date of this notice to the following address quoting 2019/00293/HAZ reference number (The Vale Of Glamorgan, Dock Office, Barry Docks, CF63 4RT or email planning@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/admin@randaproperties.co.uk quoting 2019/00293/HAZ

Date: 21st March 2019

LICENSING ACT 2003
Notice of Application to Vary a Premises Licence
TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Take notice that JD Wetherspoon plc has made an application under Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003 to vary a premises licence for the Sir Samuel Romilly, Romilly Buildings, Broad Street, Barry, CF62 7AU. The application seeks to amend the plan attached to the premises licence and to amend/include conditions on the premises licence. There are no other changes to the Premises Licence. The postal address of the relevant licensing authority is set out below and a record of the application may be inspected there during normal office hours. Anyone who wishes to make representations regarding this application must give notice in writing to the Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU or by e-mail to licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.
Written representations must be received no later than Thursday, 11th April 2019.
It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application which, upon conviction, carries an unlimited fine.
Dated 14th March 2019

ULRICH LUKE WENDON (previously known as ULRICH LUKAS WENDRINER and ULRICH CLAUS WENDRINER) (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Cowbridge Vale of Glamorgan, who died on 06/12/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 31/05/2019, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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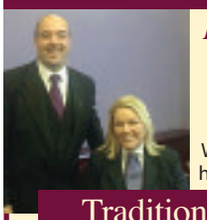

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Family Notices

FOLLETT
Rosalind (*née* Mooney)

Peacefully passed away on 13th March 2019, aged 63 years, loving mum, nan, wife and sister.

Will be sadly missed by family and friends.

God Bless you Rosalind and keep you in his care.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Coastlands Family Church on Wednesday, 27th March at 11am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Flowers may be sent directly to the funeral home.

BURKE
Martin

Unexpectedly but peacefully on 15th March, 2019, aged 48 years. Beloved son of Anthony and Pat, loving father to Robert and Jessica. Cherished grandfather to Gracie-Rose, Harriet and Evie-Rose.

Martin will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Please contact A.G Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry on 01446 735400 for details of the funeral.

Flowers may be sent directly to the funeral home.

THOMAS
Patricia Joan (Pat)

Peacefully at home on 10th March, dearly loved wife of Ron and much loved mother of Philip, Roger, Fiona and David.

Pat will be sadly missed by her loving family and friends.

Service at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday, 29th March at 1.45pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Spinal Injuries Association (Dewis Cymru) c/o Rookwood Hospital, Fairwater Road, Llandaff, Cardiff, CF5 2YN.

GREEN
Elizabeth Mary (Bettie)

Peacefully on Sunday, 10th March at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. Beloved wife of the late Clifford, loving mother to Kevin, much loved grandmother to Matthew and Simon.

Bettie will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, 29th March, service and cremation 12 noon at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

PHILLIPS
Marlene

It is with deep regret that we announce that Marlene sadly passed away after a short illness in hospital on 8th March 2019. Adored wife of Brian (Mick). Loving mother of Paul and Glenn, mother-in-law to Carole and cherished grandmother to Lisa and Ben.

She was much loved by everyone and will be greatly missed.

Funeral service to be held Wednesday, 27th March at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 4pm.

Family flowers only.

All enquires to Green Willow Funerals, 21a Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE.
Tel: 029 2051 4627.

MARTIN
Winifred Rosina (Formerly Jones)

In loving memory of Winifred Rosina Martin who sadly passed away on 10th March 2019 at Llandough Hospital. Beloved mum of Anthony and Frank. A cherished nan to all her grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Resting at The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until her service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Friday, 22nd March at 10am.

Family floral tributes only.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay J Ellis, telephone 01446 407962.

HUNT
DORIS (Dot)

Peacefully at the University of Wales, Cardiff on 13th March, Doris of Lee Road, Barry. Dearly beloved wife of the late Fred, much loved mum of Debbie and Claire, mother-in-law of Frank and adored nan of Tom.

Doris will be sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Doris is resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her funeral service at the Barry Cemetery Chapel on Wednesday, 3rd April at 11.30am, followed by interment in the cemetery at 12 noon. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Anthony D.H. Thomas.

INGLE
Stephen

Stephen's family wish to announce his sad passing on 14th March at the University Hospital of Wales, aged 55 years. Stephen was well known, formerly of St Athan and Barry. A devoted husband to Cath, much loved dad of Scott and Sophie. A loved son-in-law to Maureen and a loving brother of Sue.

He will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends.

Stephen is resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Friday, 29th March at 2pm

Family floral tributes only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support The Geoff Smith Foundation (in aid of Multiple Sclerosis) in memory of Stephen.

Further enquiries please telephone 01446 407962.

JAMES
Jill (Mrs Ewart Needham)

(Actor, Producer, Literary Agent)

Jill died peacefully on 7th March at The Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend after a short illness. Much loved daughter of Louise and a wonderful friend to so many in the Vale of Glamorgan and in the media and Bafta circles of London.

Funeral service at St Mary Magdalene Church, Monknash on Thursday, 28th March at 1pm.

Family flowers only. Donations to the Sandville Self Help Care Centre, Bridgend.

LOVELL
Richard Charles (Rich)

Richard passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family on 10th March 2019, aged 71 years. Cherished husband to the late Lesley. Loved and adored father of Katrina and Robert. Cherished and loved grandfather to Nikita. Brother to Alison.

Richard will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at 10am on Monday, 25th March at A.G. Adams Chapel, followed by committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Donations, if desired in memory of Richard, to Marie Curie.

STELLING
Shelagh Rosemary (*née* McRodden)

Peacefully passed away on 7th March 2019, aged 82 years. Devoted wife of the late Bryan, loving mother to Michael, Raymond and David. Mother-in-law to Ann, cherished grandmother and great-grandmother to Lily, Jay, Zak, Eve and Pia.

Resting at A.G Adams Funeralcare, until the service in our Chapel of Rest on Friday, 29th March at 10.30am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery. Flowers may be sent directly to the funeral home.

FOURACRE
Vera

Peacefully with family present at Barry Hospital on 19th March 2019, Vera aged 89 years. Beloved wife of the late Trevor James, both former proprietors of A.G. Adams & Son. Much loved mum of Robert, Jacqueline, Jane and Margaret. Much loved mother-in-law, grandmother and great grandmother.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service on Wednesday, 3rd April 2019 at All Saint's Church at 12.30pm, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Flowers may be sent to the funeral home. Donations in lieu of flowers, if so desired, for The Alzheimer Society c/o the funeral director.

Acknowledgements

SIMPSON
David

Tina and family would like to thank everyone for their kind messages and lovely cards. Thank you to the Redcoats for their presence and Guard of Honour, David would have been so proud of you all.

Special thanks to Ceri-Lou Newman for her beautiful service also thanks to Rebecca and her colleagues at A.G. Adams Funeralcare for their kindness and guidance. To those who attended the funeral and afterwards to celebrate David's long and happy life, all the family can say is "What a send off!" We thank you.

SCOTT
Andrew

Andrew's family would like to thank all the relatives and friends, too numerous to mention, for attending his funeral. A big thank you for the cards of condolence, good wishes, kind messages and lovely flowers received at this sad time.

Special thanks to Rev Kevin Lake and to Lyndsay Ellis and staff for their kind care at this time.

Acknowledgements

Expression of Thanks
SCOTT
Andrew

Andrew's family would like to thank most sincerely Laila and all the other carers who made his everyday life comfortable and happy. The care really was all about love.

Also, a big thank you to the nurses that watched over him.

God Bless you all.

WARNER
Frank Richard

Margaret and family would like to thank everyone who attended Frank's funeral service, and also for the lovely cards received.

We would like to thank Anthony Thomas of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Barry for his professionalism and very caring personal service.

We would also like to thank Father Ben Andrews for a lovely service celebrating Frank's life.

A big thank you for the donations received for the Alzheimer's Society and to Liam and staff at The Glenbrook Inn.

WILDING
Yvonne

Anna, Andrew, Isabella and Lara would like to convey their heartfelt thanks to all their wonderful friends. You have been truly amazing. A warm thank you to the Reverend David Boult for his support through this sad time.

Thank you also to all who attended the funeral service on Wednesday, 20th February and for all the kind messages and generous donations received.

Keith and Yvonne .... always dearly loved and remembered.

'If I keep a green bough in my heart, the singing bird will come.' - Chinese proverb.

In Memory

Birthday Memory
CLARKE
Peter

My beloved husband Peter, no birthday cards today my love.

Only wonderful memories of our time together.

Miss you so much, love you for ever, Ilona

xxx ♥ xxx

FARRUGIA
Gwen

19th March

Gone but never forgotten.

Always in our hearts.

Val & family xxx

LAMBERT
Ron

One year on the 25th March since you left us.

Thinking of you every minute of every day.

Love you

Jos & family xxx

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Seaview Lads Angling Club latest results

MARCH has been a mixed month for anglers: while some have enjoyed halcyon days in the Canaries sunshine, the hardy anglers left behind have grappled with dropping temperatures, high wind and rain, courtesy of Freya and Gareth.

Local fishing has been difficult and eels have made up several bags. Aida Harris had three of these small slippery characters in his winning weight on March 10. In second and third were Thomas Williams and Roger Green. The quality of eels improved by the following week when Roger was narrowly squeezed from a winning place by Aida.

Roger's 6lb eel would often have been plenty enough to win but Aida's eel of 6lb 5oz pipped him at the post.

Word on the beach is that Roger has progressed from using smoked mackerel as bait to using prime salmon - a fishy tale if there ever was one!

Pictured is Jordan Clarke with a fine, locally shore caught, small-eyed ray of 11lb 7oz.

JC

Rhoose Lifeguards win medals in 27 events at championships

THE recent Welsh Still Water Championships saw Rhoose Lifeguards win an impressive haul of medals across 27 events, ranging from nippers, youth and masters. The nippers came fifth overall with some fantastic results and great performances by all, resulting in lots of points for the team.

The medal winners were:

Mabli Gordon – silver in flippers, silver in manikin, silver in board, which was an excellent set of results for an eight-year-old in her first competition. Ethan Hole took a silver in the flipper race and a silver in the manikin. Robert Grice had a bronze in the flipper race. Ava Wong won gold in the board and silver in the manikin. Ethan Hole and Lewis Trigg took bronze in the board rescue. Meggan Lewis and Ellie Bryan also had a bronze in the tube rescue.

In their final year competing in nippers, Robert Grice and James Ashman took bronze in the tube rescue.

Rhoose also won a bronze in the girls' board relay event.

Moving on to the youth, the small team from Rhoose achieved an excellent third place overall, with some fine performances from all who raced.

The medal winners were: Xantia Hobrough, third in the 100m manikin carry with fins, a great result from Xantia who is one of the youngest of that age group. Robert Grice took third in the 14 and under manikin carry with fins. A very strong performance from Robert racing in his first junior event. Fin Sullivan and James Ashman took third in the boys' rope rescue. The team of Maisy Wiggins, Meggan Lewis, Elliana Phillips and Ellie Bryan took third place in the 13 and under manikin relay, a fantastic result for their first junior competition.

Also racing in their first junior competition, the boys' team of Seth Waggett, James Ashman, Ethan Harding and Jason Grice took a well-deserved third place in the boys' manikin relay.

The older boys of Ethan Wall, Charlie Thomas, Jai Gerrish and Sam Jenkins won a bronze in the 16-17 boys' manikin relay.

More impressive results came in the medley relays, with the girls' team of Xantia Hobrough, Fran Hopkins, Ella Bulmar and Evie Wong taking third place in the 14-15 girls' event.

The under-13 event saw the team of Ellie Bryan, Elliana Phillips, Meggan Lewis and Maisy Wiggins take a silver.

Not to be outdone, the boys' under-13 medley relay event saw the team of Louis Peake, Ethan Harding, James Ashman and Robert Grice take a silver medal.

In the open, the small team of Helen Jenkins, Georgia Wall, Kiera Harris, Ollie Wong, Ethan Wall, Simon Perry and Jason Grice gained valuable points to place Rhoose fifth overall.

Finally, yet importantly, the small team of masters placed sixth overall. Not everyone was lucky enough to win medals but it was great to see some new faces racing for Rhoose in this category, gaining valuable points for the team.

Medal winners were: Karen O'Donoghue-Harris – Gold in the 100m manikin carry with fins, gold in the 100m manikin tow with fins and silver in the 50m manikin carry. Karen paired up with Melissa Downton and won gold in the rope rescue.

The pairing of Stuart Wong and Tony Lloyd took a bronze in the rope rescue. The 50-59 mixed medley relay team of Simon Hopkin, Stuart Wong, Melissa Downton and Karen O'Donoghue-Harris took a well-deserved bronze medal.

It was a great team effort from every Rhoose member who competed across all the age groups, gaining valuable points for the club.

A big thank you goes to the excellent coaching team for the hard work and dedication they put in to training our members and to all parents for their continued support.

JH

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Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club news

THE results for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for March 18 are as follows:

First, Kevin Maddox and John Beard 71.53 per cent; second, Steve Burgoyne and John Evans 58.10 per cent; third, Dave and Debbie Lea 55.32 per cent.

LE

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SMALL ADS BIG RESULTS!

Gymnasts get a boost from house builder

Young gymnasts with Charlotte Gabb (left) and Sophia Erickson (right) from Barry YMCA Gymnastics. Michelle Thomas (Persimmon) is back row, centre.

A THRIVING gymnastics club in Barry has been named as one of the first winners of a new campaign.

YMCA Barry Gymnastics Club has received £1,000 as one of the first regional champions of Persimmon Homes' 'Building Futures' programme in partnership with Team GB, the British Olympic Association.

YMCA Barry Gymnastics Club, which has more than 750 members, will put its £1,000 windfall towards a new specialist trampoline.

Anthea Clements, chief executive officer at the club, said: "We are delighted to have won this funding from Persimmon Homes.

"We are always trying to improve our facility and equipment and at the moment we're raising money for a much-needed Acrotramp.

"An Acrotramp is a type of long trampoline and acts as a safe training aid for the gymnasts to learn acrobatic skills."

Building Futures is being delivered through the Persimmon Charitable Foundation, which last year gave away £620,000 to support children's sport.

To find out more about 'Building Futures' or to apply, visit *www.persimmonhomes.com/building-futures*

Barry RFC hope for better weather

FOR the second successive week, Barry RFC's attempts to catch up with their games in hand was thwarted by the weather, this time at Llanharan.

They will hopefully get back into action this weekend when they travel to Abercynon for a 2.30pm kick off. A bus will leave the club at 12.30pm for players and supporters.

The Lottery rolls over again this week to £3,950 after last week's numbers 06, 11, 18 and 23 failed to produce a winner. Two tickets matched three numbers to win £10.

AJ

Barry Chess Club news

THE battle to finish in the top three places in division four is hotting up, with the Barry Gambits and Barry Stauntons occupying second and fourth places respectively.

On Monday evening, the Stauntons were in action against the Pontypridd Goshawks, one of the main contenders for the coveted positions. Unfortunately for Pontypridd a number of their squad were unavailable and arriving with only three players meant the Stauntons were two points ahead before the match even commenced.

The three boards that were played were all close-fought affairs. Ken Curry and Martin Ricketts both earned good draws against higher-rated opponents, while Dave Mahoney was not disgraced despite losing to Ponty's John Callan, who outgraded Dave by some 300 points.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry (CF62 6QY). The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival. For more details visit our website at barrychessclub.yolasite.com

MR

Latest from Barrivale Bridge Club

THE results for the Barrivale Bridge Club session on March 12 are as follows:

Barrivale WBU sims heat: first, Mick Green and Sean MacDougall 64.08 per cent; second, Debbie Richards and Noelle Bond 62.67; third, Mark Roderick and Kay Dyer 61.58. The handicap winners were Hilary Morgan and Debbie Dawkins.

New members at the club are always welcomed and a partner may be arranged, if required. If you would like to join us please call any of the following numbers: 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

Alternatively, players inexperienced or new to bridge playing may attend the following sessions: Friday 10am at the Pioneer Hall for lessons and assisted play.

Thursday afternoons for assisted play from 1.30pm - 4pm at the Barry Uniting Church, Heol y Llongau, Barry CF634AP (the waterfront). Come and give it a try and learn more about this popular and fascinating game from excellent instructors, you will soon be hooked!

Old Hall Bridge Club

THE results for Wednesday, March 13 are:

First, James Mangles and Sara Bartlett; second, Graham and Sue Norris.

TP

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2016 (16) AUDI RS3 2.5 TFSI 362 Quattro S-T, Red, 5dr hatch, Auto, Nav/LTH, Petrol, 31,855 miles £31,990

2010 (60) LAND ROVER DEFENDER 110 2.4 TDCi XS, grey, 5dr Station Wagon, Diesel, 45,409 miles £26,990

2005 (55) LANDROVER DEFENDER 300 TDi Rest of World Spec, Blue, AC, Diesel, 58,378 miles £24,990

2015 (65) BMW X5 2.0 xDrive 25D 231 SE Black, 5dr, SW Auto, NAV/LTHR/PDC, Diesel, ...£22,448

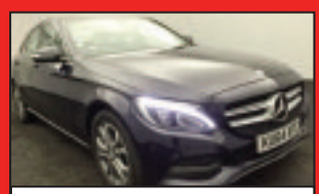
2016 (66) VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN 2.0 TDI 150 BMT 2WD SE Grey, 5dr, SW, NAV/PDC/18", 12,346 miles £18,790

2017 (17) SUBARU BRZ 2.0i SE Lux 2dr Coupe, Blue, NAV/LTHR, Petrol, 19,000 miles £17,900

2015 (15) TOYOTA HILUX 3.0 D-4D 171 Invincible 4WD 4dr, Blue, Crew Cab AUTO, Diesel, 21,313 miles £17,990

2018 (18) VOLKSWAGEN TRANSPORTER T28 2.0 TDI 102 BMT S/L SWB PDC, Grey, Diesel, 8,691 miles £16,790

2015 (15) MERCEDES-BENZ E220 CDI 2.1 B/T AMG Line 5dr Estate, White, Auto, NAV/PDC, Diesel, 44,455 miles £16,490

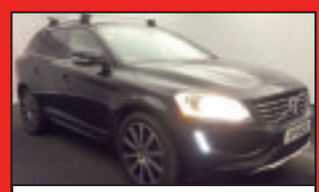


2014 (64) MERCEDES-BENZ C250 2.1 B/T SPORT 4dr Saloon, Blue, AUTO, NAV/LTHR/PDC, Diesel, 31,543 miles £15,990

2016 (66) VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN 2.0 TDI 150 BMT 2WD SEL NAV/PDC/P-ROOF/19", Black, Diesel £15,890

2016 (66) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 TDI 150 R Line Edition 3dr, Grey, NAV/PDC/18", Diesel, 16,818 miles £15,490

2015 (15) VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 215 AWD SE NAV 5dr Estate, Gold, NAV/PDC/17", Diesel, 57,945 miles £14,990



2014 (14) VOLVO XC60 2.4 D4 163 AWD SE 5dr Estate, Black, NAV/LTHR/PDC/20", Diesel, 43,449 miles £14,990

2014 (64) MERCEDES-BENZ C250 2.1 B/T SPORT PREM + 5dr, White, Est, Auto, NAV/LTHR, Diesel, ...£14,490

2011 (61) AUDI Q3 2.0 TFSI 210 QUATTRO SE 5dr, Blue, SW AUTO NAV/PDC/18", Diesel, 44,646 miles £13,990

2009 (09) LAND ROVER R ROVER 3.6 TDV8 Vogue, Black, AUTO NAV/LTHR/TV/22", Diesel £11,990

2002 (62) BMW 320D 2.0 M Sport 4dr Saloon, Red, PDC/HTD LTHR/19", Diesel . . .£11,990

2014 (14) MERCEDES-BENZ B180 1.5 CDi Sport 5dr Estate, Red, AUTO, CAM/NAV/LTHR, Diesel, 35,601 miles £11,490

2013 (13) MERCEDES-BENZ B200 1.6 B/E Sport, 5dr, Black, MPV, AUTO, LTHR/CAM/18", Diesel, 44,704 miles £11,490

2016 (16) BMW 120D 2.0 M SPORT 5dr Hatchback, AUTO NAV/LTHR, Blue, Diesel, ...£11,445

2015 (15) VOLVO V40 2.0 T2 122 R Design 5dr Hatchback, Blue, Petrol, 28,715 miles £10,290

2015 (65) VAUXHALL VIVARO 1.6 CDTi 115PS L2 2900 H1 Double Cab, White, Diesel, No VAT £9,945

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2005 (05) VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 205 5dr AWD Geartronic PDC/17", grey, Diesel.....£8,490

2006 (06) TOYOTA LANDCRUISER 3.0 D-4D LC3 5dr Auto Station Wagon, grey, Diesel, ...£7,995

2015 (65) CITROEN BERLINGO L1 1.6 HDI 75, Silver, Enterprise Van, NAV, Diesel, 31,588 miles £7,990

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2008 (08) LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2 2.2 TD4 SE 5dr, Red, SW, AUTO, NAV/PDC/P-ROOF, Diesel, 69,810 miles £7,790

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2012 (12) PEUGEOT PARTNER TEPEE 1.6 HDi 92 S 5dr Estate, grey, 17,900 miles..£6,990

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2014 (14) VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2 70 Match Edition 5dr Hatchback, Brown, PDC/DAB, Petrol, 50,802 miles £6,292

2010 (60) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 TDI 140 GT 5dr Hatchback, black, Diesel.....£6,290

2005 (55) MERCEDES-BENZ SLK 200K 1.8 2dr Roadster Tip Auto, Silver, AIR-S/LTHR/B-T, Petrol, 63,000 miles £5,990

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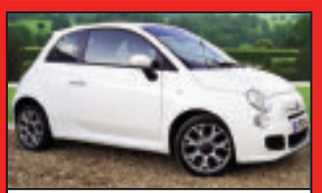

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2008 (08) VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.4 SE 80 5dr Hatchback, Automatic, Blue, Petrol, 28,892 miles.....£5,290

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2007 (07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2 S 55 5dr Hatchback, Blue, Petrol, 32,431 miles..... .....£4,290

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Winner Brian Jones with sponsor Josh Edwards, Arwyn John, Chris Rooney and Captain Clive Thomas.

New captain Clive drives off for the Farmers!

THE captain's 'drive-in' for Clive Thomas, the recently installed captain of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society, took place recently at Southerndown Golf Club when 34 members assembled at the first tee to witness the traditional opening shot of the new golfing season.

Despite the pressure of being surrounded by interested spectators a very impressive opening drive of 160 yards set the tone for what members hope will be an enjoyable year for this farmer from Llantwit Major. Playing for the Southerndown Cup and a range of prizes supplied by sponsors Clive Edwards (Construction) Ltd ensured a keenly contested competition with just four points separating the top six competitors at the close of play.

For many, however, trying to execute shots off fairways still damaged from last year's drought compared to playing off plush fairways enjoyed at their home course, proved quite a challenge which quite a few failed to overcome.

For Brian Jones, however, the condition of the course was not an issue. Having recently undertaken a late career change from farming to property development, this popular member returned to the clubhouse with a winning score of 35 stableford points and received the Southerndown Cup from sponsor's representative Josh Edwards.

Runner-up was Chris Rooney who scored 34 points followed by Hugh Williams with 32 points.

Vice-captain David Harris, who in the last 12 months has invested heavily in undergoing a complete 'makeover' in an effort to achieve the perfect stance, swing and follow, finally benefited from his investment to finish in fourth place with 31 points and be rewarded with a boot jack for his fine effort.

Nearest the pin on the Watts & Morgan sponsored par-3 holes were Chris Watson, Tony McCarthy and Martyn Edwards (2).

Recently-appointed handicap secretary Tim Jarvis hit the longest drive down the 18th fairway to collect the Picketston Poultry sponsored prize and Lyn Thomas returned home with the Llanerch Vineyard sponsored prize when correctly guessing just 23 balls would remain out in the thick gorse associated with this course. This raised £75 for the Velindre Cancer Care Charity.

Gareth Perkins was rewarded with a bottle of malt whiskey for correctly guessing the distance of the Captain's opening drive and Arwyn John, now an honorary member who a day before had celebrated his 86th birthday, won the visitors prize with 31 points.

The society's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 28, at Pennard Golf Club sponsored by JCP solicitors of Cowbridge.

T.McC

YMCA Barry gymnasts' grading success

Grade 6 (front) Poppy Falconer, Charlie Rae Davies, Islah Anderson, Connie Clark, Llinos Jones, Olivia Strong, Soren Hill. Back, Ellie Gronow, Ruby Jo Grocott, Farron Jones, Ava Rae Hopkins, Robyn Thomas, Ava Carter and Mya Edwards.

YMCA Barry's female gymnasts have had huge success in the last few weeks when 27 gymnasts completed their gymnastics grading and YMCA Barry had a 100 per cent pass rate.

This is a big achievement for both the club and the gymnasts who competed against other clubs in south central Wales. The grading system is designed to ensure the gymnasts are on the correct path to progress in competitive gymnastics and the first grade (Grade 6) is completed at the age of eight.

The gymnasts competed on all four apparatuses: Floor, Bars, Beam, Vault and a range and conditioning routine, which tests the gymnast's strength and flexibility.

In the Grade 6 category, YMCA Barry's eight-year-olds Poppy Falconer, Charlie Rae Davies, Islah Anderson, Connie Clark, Llinos Jones, Ruby Jo Grocott, Olivia Strong, Soren Hill, Farron Jones, Robyn Thomas and Mya Edwards competed in the 'In Age' category.

In the 'Out of Age' category, Ellie Gronow, Ava Rae Hopkins and Ava Carter competed.

Within the 'In Age' eight-year-old competition, Mya Edwards received sixth on Floor and fourth on Vault. In the 'Out of Age' category, Ava Carter gained sixth on Beam and Ellie Gronow claimed fifth on Floor, sixth on Bars and became the Range and Conditioning Champion and third in the Overall competition.

In Grade 5, Lacey Jones received sixth on Range and Conditioning, Katie Wong claimed third on Bars, second on Floor and became the Range and Conditioning South Central Champion. Lottie Cummins was presented with fifth on Beam, fourth on Floor, second on Vault and became the Range and Conditioning join South Central Champion with Katie and the South Central Grade 5 Bar Champion.

Nia Beasley claimed third on Bars, third on Range and Conditioning and became the Beam, Floor and Vault South Central Grade 5 Champion.

In the overall category where all five routine scores are added together, Katie Wong was fourth, Lottie Cummins second and Nia Beasley became the overall Grade 5 South Central Wales Champion. Katie, Lottie and Nia qualified to represent South Central Wales in the Welsh Grading finals.

In the Grade 4 category, 10-year-olds Ruby Clark, Rosie Jo Bishop, Gracie Jones and Melissa Cookson competed in the 'In Age' category. In the 'Out of Age' category, Sophie Notton, Stacie Leigh White and Seren Doel competed, all of whom demonstrated elegant and dynamic gymnastics. In the Out of Age competition, Seren received sixth on Bars and Sophie earned third on Floor.

Within the 'In Age' category, Melissa received third on Range and Conditioning, Ruby claimed sixth on Vault, sixth on Beam and fifth on Floor. Rosie was presented with second on Vault, second on Beam, second on Floor and became the South Central Grade 4 Champion on Bars and Range and Conditioning.

Gracie claimed fourth on Vault, second on Bars, third on Range and Conditioning and became the South Central Grade 4 Champion on Beam and Floor.

Overall, with all five scores combined, Ruby Clark was fifth, Rosie Jo Bishop second and Gracie Jones became the South Central Grade 4 Champion. Ruby, Rosie and Gracie all qualified to represent South Central Wales at the Welsh Grades Finals.

Congratulations to all the gymnasts who passed their grade and to the dedicated coaches at YMCA Barry for their successes. YMCA Barry Gymnastics cater for all levels of gymnastics with Gymbabies and Gymtots, gymnastics for boys and girls from beginners to international gymnasts – most recently with two gymnasts, Josh Cook and Iwan Mepham, representing Wales at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

For more information, call 01446 724000, email sophie@ymcabarry.org.uk or follow us on social media @ymcabarry.

Vale SLSC Nippers enjoy success at first pool competition

AT the recent Welsh Stillwater Championships held at Swansea, Vale Surf Lifesaving Club Nipper section enjoyed their first pool competition.

The Nipper section of the club was represented by Summer Hurley, Harry Nicholas, Kaiya Takata, Katie Luen-Twining, Esme Bennett, Gethin Barber, Evie Barber, Jessica Oakley, Katie Oakley, Honor Hopkin, Elinor Burrows, Owen Boffy, Freya Dobson and Oliver Nolan; the majority of whom were first-time competitors not only at a Stillwater competition but also in a 50m pool. Each and every member of the team put in excellent performances.

Harry Nicholas was superb in the 8yr Manikin Carry event winning a gold medal and he also won a bronze medal in the Board Race and came in fourth place in the Flipper Race. Gethin Barber was excellent in the Manikin Carry finishing in fourth place while Elinor Burrows achieved a brilliant fifth place in the Manikin Carry.

Despite being such a small team the Nippers finished in 11th place overall and everyone at Vale SLSC is extremely proud of them all.

SP

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON Tuesday, March 12, top of the table Edmondes B beat the Victoria Inn 7-2.

This was despite Amanda (Victoria Inn) winning a leg with a 112 three-dart-out (new ladies' highest out) and Kate George (Victoria Inn) winning a leg with 13 darts.

Also in this game Martin Thomas (Edmondes B) hit his third 180 of the season.

Second-placed Highwayman Inn beat the Edmondes C by the same 7-2 score, Tom Verrill (Highwayman Inn) hitting his second 180 of the season.

The Farmers Arms beat the Llanharry 5-4 and the Hairy Farmers beat the Red Lion Inn 7-2. Chris Curlow (Red Lion) won his match by hitting a 112 three-dart-out.

In the other match the One Town Hall came back from 2-4 down to win 5-4.

Present league standings, after 15 weeks, are: Edmondes B (104 points), Highwayman Inn (98), Edmondes A (75), Llanharry (66), Farmers Arms (60), Victoria Inn (59), Hairy Farmers (58), One Town Hall Square (43), Edmondes C (40) and Red Lion Inn (18).

Next week, Tuesday March 26, Llanharry Workingmen's Club hosts the men's singles knock-out competition. The action will start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridge-darts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

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12 62 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT 3.0 SDV6 HSE 5dr Automatic 4x4, 20"alloys, sat nav, heated seats, reverse camera, black, full leather **£17995**

£20 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

MINI WARRANTY NOV 2019

16 66 MINI COOPER 1.5 5dr, Mini warranty Nov 2019, Bluetooth, dab, air-con, aux, usb, 27k **£10995**

£140 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

MINI WARRANTY OCT 2020

17 67 MINI COOPER 2.0 S Seven 5dr (192bhp), chilli pack, sat nav, cruise, 7k, choice, half-leather **£14795**

£165 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

15 65 MINI PACEMAN 1.6 John Cooper Works ALL4 3dr (218bhp), chilli + tlc pack, 39k, red, full leather **£14995**

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15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr Automatic, media pack xl – sat nav, privacy glass, chilli + tlc pack, 27k, blue **£19495**

£20 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 3dr, pepper + tlc pack, Bluetooth, alloys, dab, 37k, white **£8995**

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16 65 MINI COOPER 2.0 SD 3dr, JCW sport pack, media xl – sat nav, met blue **£12495**

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15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 3dr, pepper + tlc pack, Bluetooth, alloys, dab, 37k, white **£8995**

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16 16 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr, chilli+tlc pack, media xl – sat nav, black alloys, 26k, blue **£11495**

14 64 MINI COOPER 2.0 SD 3dr, chilli + tlc pack, cruise, privacy glass, 27k, white **£10995**

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16 66 MINI COOPER 2.0 SD 5dr, Mini warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 11k, choice **£12495**

16 66 MINI COOPER 2.0 SD 3dr, Mini warranty Dec 2019, chilli pack, media XL – sat nav, 23k, grey, half-leather **£12995**

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11 61 MINI COUPE 1.6 Cooper S 3dr, chilli pack, heated seats, 54k, black, full leather **£6995**

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16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 S 6dr Automatic, Mini warranty Nov 2019, chilli + JCW pack, Media – sat nav, pan roof, 6k, choice, half-leather **£18995**

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18 18 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.5 Cooper ALL4 5dr, Mini warranty April 2021, chilli pack, sat nav, heated seats, only 1903 miles, green **£20995**

15 15 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper S 5dr, 17"alloys, aux, usb, white, half-leather **£10295**

13 63 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D All4 5dr, Privacy glass, Bluetooth, aux, usb, silver **£9995**

15 65 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D ALL4 5dr, chilli + tlc pack, media pack – sat nav, heated seats, 37k, black, full leather **£12995**

15 15 MINI COUNTRYMAN 2.0 D Cooper Business Edition All4 5dr Automatic, sat nav, white **£12995**

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15 15 MINI PACEMAN 1.6 Cooper 3dr, pepper + tlc pack, 17"black alloys, 28k, white with black roof **£9995**

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17 67 BMW 330 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, silver, full leather **£22495**

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15 65 BMW 430 D XDrive M Sport 2dr Automatic, M sport + pack, 19"alloys, red, full leather **£19995**

16 66 BMW 435 D XDrive M Sport Convertible, BMW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 22k, white, full leather **£23995**

15 65 BMW X1 2.0 D XDrive X-Line 5dr, sat nav plus, electric memory seats, 10k, black, full leather **£19495**

16 16 BMW X1 2.0 DXDrive M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty June 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 24k, met white **£18995**

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13 13 BMW X3 2.0 D M Sport 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, met red, full leather **£12995**

16 66 FORD EDGE 2.0 TDCI 210 Titanium 5dr Powershift 4WD, Ford warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, 19"alloys, reverse camera, black **£21495**

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17 66 MERCEDES GLA200 D 4Matic Sport 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, red,29k, full leather **£17995**

16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-Connecta 5dr 4WD, Nissan warranty April 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k, black **£14295**

16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI BlueMotionTech R 5dr 4WD (300bhp), VW warranty June 2019, xenons, cruise, 15k, met blue **£19995**

17 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 5dr 4WD, VW warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, heated seats, 19k, red **£21995**

16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, VW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 21k, choice **£21995**

15 65 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT Tech Match 4Motion 5dr, sat nav, 17"alloys, white **£13495**

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT 150 SE Nav 5dr DSG Automatic 4Motion, VW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, 23k, black **£21495**

16 66 VW TOUAREG 3.0 TDI V6 BluemotionTech 262 R-Line 5dr Automatic 4WD, VW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, pan roof, 18k, white, full leather **£25995**

16 16 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 220 SE 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, privacy glass, white, half-leather **£19995**

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14 64 AUDI A3 2.0 TDI S-Line 3dr, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, xenons, grey **£12995**

18 18 AUDI A4 AVANT 2.0 TDI Ultra SE Estate, Audi warranty May 2021, sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, Bluetooth, 2k, blue **£22995**

17 17 AUDI Q2 1.6 TDI S-Line 5dr, Audi warranty April 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 17k, white, half-leather **£21495**

15 15 AUDI Q3 2.0 TDI SE 5dr, LED headlight pack, Privacy glass, 17"Alloys, 25k, blue **£15995**

12 62 BMW 116 D EfficientDynamics 5dr, Bluetooth, black **£7995**

14 64 BMW 116 D M Sport 3dr, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 29k, blue **£11995**

15 65 BMW 116 D Sport 5dr, sat nav, privacy glass, comfort pack, 17"alloys, 24k, choice **£11295**

15 64 BMW M135i 3.0 M Sports 5dr automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, 34k, orange, full oyster leather **£16995**

14 14 BMW M235 3.0 I 2dr Automatic, pro sat nav, Harman kardon, red, full leather **£16495**

16 66 BMW 320 D M Sport GT 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, pro sat nav, heated seats, cruise, silver, full leather **£15495**

16 66 BMW 420 I Luxury Gran Coupe 4dr Automatic (184bhp), BMW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k, white, full leather **£19995**

16 16 BMW 420 D 190 M Sport 2dr Automatic (190bhp), sat nav, heated seats, grey, full leather **£16995**

16 66 BMW 420 D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather **£19495**

16 66 BMW 430 D M Sport Gran Coupe Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2019, pro sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, black, full leather **£19995**

16 16 BMW 430i M Sport 2dr Automatic, M sport plus pack, 19" alloys, Harman Kardon, wide screen sat nav, met grey, full leather **£20995**

17 17 BMW 430 I M Sport Convertible Automatic, BMW warranty June 2020, 19"alloys, sat nav, Harman kardon, 2k, individual rose quartz, full individual leather **£29995**

15 65 BMW 520 DM Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather **£14495**

18 18 BMW 520 I M Spoort 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty July 2021, sat nav, xenons, cruise, 15k, white, full leather **£26995**

18 18 BMW 530 E M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty June 2021, sat nav, 19"alloys, dab, 10k, blue, full leather **£31495**

14 14 BMW 640 DM Sport 2dr Automatic, sunroof, sat nav, head up display, soft close doors, 43k, carbon black, full ivory white leather **£19995**

15 65 BMW 640 DSE Gran Coupe 4dr Automatic, sat nav, 20"alloys, privacy glass, black, full leather **£20495**

16 66 BMW 640 3.0 D M Sport Gran Coupe 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, privacy glass, choice, full leather, 9k, from **£23995**

16 65 CITROEN C4 CACTUS 1.2 Pure Tech (82) Feel 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, 29k, white **£7995**

16 66 DS DS3 1.6 BlueHDI Chic 3dr, DS warranty Dec 2019, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, white **£7495**

16 16 FIAT 500 1.2 Pop Star 3dr, air-con, alloys, aux, usb, 19k, black **£6495**

17 17 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, Bluetooth, PDC, choice **£6795**

18 67 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, Fiat warranty Feb 2021, pan roof, cruise, Bluetooth, pdc, 9k, blue **£8495**

17 66 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost 140 ST-Line 3dr, Ford warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise, 11k, choice **£9795**

18 67 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost ST-Line 3dr (New Model), Ford warranty February 2021, sat nav, 17"Alloys, Bluetooth, 9k, black **£11995**

16 65 FORD FIESTA 1.6 EcoBoost ST-3 3dr (180bhp), sat nav, heated seats, xenons, 14k, white, half-leather **£11795**

16 66 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDCI Titanium 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, aux, usb, 20k **£8795**

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Titanium X Estate, Ford warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 17"alloys, 29k, black, half-leather **£12495**

17 17 FORD FOCUS 1.5 EcoBoost ST-Line 5dr (150bhp), Ford warranty July 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, 14k, grey **£13495**

15 65 FORD FOCUS 2.0 TDCI 185 ST-3 Navigation 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, blue, full leather **£12495**

16 65 FORD GRAND C-MAX 2.0 TDCI Titanium X Navigation 5dr (7-Seater), pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 6k, blue **£15995**

16 66 FORD KUGA 1.5 T EcoBoost ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty Jan 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 23k, white, half-leather **£16995**

15 15 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Econetic Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, dab, aux, choice **£8295**

17 17 HONDA CIVIC 1.5 VTEC Sport 5dr (180bhp), Honda warranty April 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 23k, blue **£15495**

15 65 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive SE Nav 5dr, Hyundai warranty until Jan 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 27k, choice **£12995**

18 68 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive Go SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 3k, white **£19495**

15 65 JAGUAR XE 2.0 D 180 R-Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, dab, privacy glass, 25k, black, full leather **£16495**

16 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D (180) R-Sport 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather **£18495**

17 17 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D 180 Portfolio 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty March 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, white, full leather **£20995**

16 66 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI 2 4dr, Kia warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, silver **£12495**

17 67 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI ISG 2 Estate, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, choice **£12495**

15 65 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 2 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Dec 2022, pan roof, cruise, 11k, white, half-leather **£12795**

17 67 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 3 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Sept 2024, pan roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 19k, blue, full leather **£18495**

15 65 LEXUS CT200H 1.8 Advance Plus 5dr Automatic, sat nav, glass sunroof, 23k, white, half-leather **£15495**

16 16 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 D Sport 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, black, full leather **£10995**

15 65 MERCEDES A180 1.5 CDI Sport 5dr Automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, 35k, silver **£13795**

13 13 MERCEDES C220 CDI Blueefficiency Executive SE 2dr Coupe 7G-Tronic Automatic, silver, full leather **£9495**

14 64 MERCEDES C220 BlueTec Sport Premium Estate 7G Tronic, premium pack, pan roof, reverse camera, sat nav, white, full leather **£15995**

18 67 MERCEDES C300H AMG Line Hybrid 4dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Feb 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, silver, 6k, full leather **£24995**

15 65 MERCEDES CLA200 D Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, privacy glass, 33k, grey, half-leather **£17495**

15 65 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 DIG-T Tekna 5dr (187bhp), sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather **£9495**

16 16 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Acenta Premium 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 25k, white **£9995**

15 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Tec + 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, cruise, 10k, choice **£12995**

15 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 29k, blue, full leather **£13295**

17 67 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.2 DIG-T Acenta 5dr (New Model), Nissan warranty Jan 2021, sat nav, tech pack, 5k, red **£14995**

15 15 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr, pan roof, cruise, privacy glass, grey **£12495**

16 66 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr X-Tronic 7-Seater, Nissan warranty Oct 2019, pan roof, cruise, 23k, black **£15995**

17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE Energy Expression + 5dr, Renault warranty Nov 2021, Bluetooth, cruise, 6k, black **£10495**

14 64 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S Medianav Energy 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 19k, choice **£8995**

17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Dynaique 90 S Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, cruise, pdc, Bluetooth, 10k, grey **£11995**

16 65 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S 5dr, Renault warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, 19"alloys, cruise, 30k, blue **£11995**

17 67 SEAT ALHAMBRA 2.0 TDI CR Ecomotive SE (150) 5dr (7-Seater), Seat warranty Dec 2020, cruise, Bluetooth, choice from **£17495**

17 67 SEAT LEON 1.4 TSI 125 FR Technology 5dr, Seat warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 8k, choice from **£12795**

18 67 SEAT LEON 1.4 EcoTsi FR Technology Estate DSG Automatic, Seat warranty until Feb 2021, sat nav, cruise, choice **£13495**

16 16 SEAT LEON 2.0 TSI Cupra 3dr (290bhp), Seat warranty August 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 19"alloys, 15k, red, full leather **£16495**

17 67 SKODA KODIAQ 1.4 TSI Editon 150 5dr DSG Automatic (7-Seater), Skoda warranty Nov 2020, pan roof, sat nav, heated seats, 8k, brown, full leather **£24995**

17 17 SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDI Laurin & Klement 5dr DSG Automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, full leather, silver **£17995**

16 66 SKODA OCTAVIA 2.0 TDI SE-L 5dr, Skoda warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, black **£11495**

17 67 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI Elite 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, 20k, silver, full leather **£11495**

15 65 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 Sting 5dr, cruise, electric windows, 24k, red **£5995**

15 15 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 T (100bhp) Limited Edition 3dr, cruise, 17"black alloys, 42k, red **£6295**

16 16 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.6 CDTI ecoFLEX Design 5dr, Bluetooth, cruise, 28k, silver **£8795**

16 66 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI 170 SRI VX-Line 5dr Automatic, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2019, 19"alloys, sat nav, cruise, 22k, black **£12495**

16 16 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 Exclusive 5dr, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, choice **£8295**

16 66 VW POLO 1.4 TSI ACT Blue GT 3dr, VW warranty Dec 2019, electric glass sunroof, Bluetooth, cruise, choice **£11495**

16 66 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 TSI Bluemotion Tech R 3dr (280bhp), VW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, 19"alloys, heated seats, 17k, white, full leather **£19495**

15 15 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 TDI 184 Bluemotion Tech R –Line 3dr DSG Automatic, sat nav, 19"alloys, 38k, silver, full leather **£14795**

17 67 VOLVO V40 2.0 T3 (152) R-Design Pro 5dr, Volvo warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, 18k, choice **£14495**

16 16 VOLVO V60 2.0 D3 (150) R-Design Estate, cruise, aux, usb, red, half-leather **£12495**

18 18 VOLVO V90 2.0 D4 R-Design Estate Geartronic, Volvo warranty April 2021, sat nav, heated seats, 6k, grey, half-leather **£26495**

17 67 BMW 116 D Sport 5dr, BMW warranty until September 2020, sat nav, 17"alloys, Bluetooth, dab, usb, 28k **£13495**

17 17 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr Automatic (new model), BMW warranty March 2020, sat nav, cruise, black, full leather **£21995**

15 15 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, air-con, 19k, black **£5995**

15 65 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 ED4 SE 5dr, contrast roof, privacy glass, white, full leather **£20995**

16 16 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI EcoFlex Design 5dr, cruise, air-con, grey **£5995**

15 64 VAUXHALL ADAM 1.4 I (100) Slam 3dr, 18"black alloys, air-con, 43k, black **£6495**

16 16 SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDI SE Business Estate, sat nav, 17"alloys, black, half-leather **£12995**

16 65 FORD S-MAX 2.0 TDCI Titanium Sport 5dr (7-Seater), sat nav, white **£16295**

16 65 AUDI A1 1.6 TDI Black Edition 5dr, pan roof, cruise, white, half-leather **£13495**

16 16 BMW 430 D M Sport 2dr Automatic, M sport + pack, body kit, sat nav, reverse camera, individual san marino **£26495**

15 65 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI Black Edition 4dr, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 27k, grey, half-leather **£17495**

16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 D AMFG Line Coupe Automatic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, cruise, 30k,white **£19995**

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 2dr 9G-Tronic, Mercedes warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 7k, white, half-leather **£28995**

16 16 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Zetec Estate Automatic, sat nav, cruise, grey **£11495**

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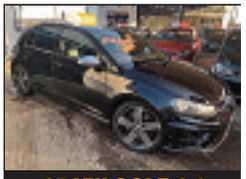

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End of winning run for Tigers

LLANTWIT Major RFC under-13s Tigers were home this weekend, hosting Penallta RFC.

A strong cross-wind meant that conditions were challenging, but having survived the rain in Bedwas and the gales in Porthcawl in recent weeks, everyone was pleased to see the sun come out in this eagerly-anticipated return fixture.

Having lost by a single point with the last kick of the game late in injury time in December, there was hope of another close game to keep the supporters entertained.

Sadly however, only the travelling support got much enjoyment from the game. Following two impressive away wins, the Tigers had hoped to extended their winning run to three but on this occasion they were not able to deliver to the same high standards.

Penallta played very well, using big players to constantly challenge the home team's defence and getting rewards with a couple of close range tries.

A third try was to follow before the Tigers managed to work their way upfield and start to challenge the visitors' defence.

Constant infringement of the offside line resulted in a run of close-range penalties, but try as they might the Tigers were unable to break the strong Penallta defence and take advantage of the possession and territory.

To make matters worse, the Tigers then lost their top try scorer to injury as captain Dan Bartlett took a blow to the face in attempting to force his way over the line from close range.

Ethan Harding took over captaincy while Ben Raymond was called into action from the bench.

Although playing with the slope in the second half, it was again the visitors who made the better start, taking advantage of some ineffective tackling by the home team to extend their lead.

It was turning out to be just one of those games for the Tigers, who struggled to get to terms with the conditions, the aggressive opposition and the refereeing of the offside line, much to the displeasure of the home supporters.

There were signs of encouragement however. Winger Cameron Wheadon had a great run on the left wing, while lock Jakub Jeziorski and flanker come centre Kelyn Joseph battled endlessly to fill the gap left by the injured captain.

Tom Jones at scrum half offered a threat, but it was once again centre, and eventual man of the match, Fred O'Carroll, who restored some pride for the home team with a typically determined run to hold off four defenders and score late in the game.

Ethan Harding converted to continue the team's impressive 100 per cent kicking record from the last game with another well-executed kick.

The final whistle confirmed Penallta RFC as deserved winners, so congratulations to them.

The Tigers were left scratching their heads a little to explain the performance, but should be optimistic for the future as new players bed into positions and the team finally get back to training on grass after a winter of non-contact, 3G training.

This week's away fixture at Cwmafan RFC comes at a great time.

Squad: Kian Barnett, Dan Bartlett (c), Robert Dixon, Thomas George, Blake Gifford, Ethan Harding, Cameron Hegney, Jakub Jeziorski, Harvey Jones, Tom Jones, Kelyn Joseph, Dexter Milburn, Fred O'Carroll, Ben Raymond, Tom Sheldon and Cameron Wheadon.

SJ

Day's defence of Open title ended in final

BRIDGEND'S Ryan Day narrowly failed to defend his Gibraltar Open title when he lost 4-1 to former world champion Stuart Bingham in the final.

Day won the opening frame with an 83 clearance after Bingham missed a red on a break of 48.

But the 2015 world champion then made breaks of 100, 84 and 103 en route to victory.

The win earned Bingham £25,000, while his run to the final clinched him a place in the lucrative Tour Championship.

Day, from Pontycymer, is ranked 17th in the world. Aged 38, he has won around £1.6 million in a 20-year professional career.

Michael Prosser

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest?
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News from On and Off The Turf with Brian Lee

***POTTERS Corner* and *Prime Venture*, both trained in the Vale, took first and fourth places respectively in last Saturday's Midlands Grand National over a gruelling four miles and one-furlong heavy going course.**

Former National Hunt jockey, Ogmore-By-Sea's Christian Williams, had his biggest win yet when he saddled *Potters Corner*. The first prize was £84,405.

Given a great ride by 18-year-old James Bowen from Pembrokeshire, who also has a Welsh Grand National winner to his credit, nine-year-old *Potters Corner*, a 20-1 chance, and a faller in his two previous races, ploughed through the mud and rain to score by two lengths from *MS Parfois*.

Prime Venture, trained by Evan Williams, a former national champion point-to-point rider and partnered by stable jockey Adam Wedge, was fourth of the 18 starters.

Christian, one-time assistant trainer to no-relation Evan Williams, said: "It's great. He was a bit wobbly in his previous races the Eider Chase and the Somerset National but he's pulled his jumping together now. We've worked hard at it the last fortnight and it's all come together now. It's great to win a race like this and James is a special talent."

James, like Christian a former point-to-point rider, said: "*Potters Corner* was always travelling well. I think I used to send him into his fences too much asking for big ones. This was a much different race in slower ground. He's done great and has a big heart.''

Welsh rugby international centre Jonathan Davies is a member of the syndicate which own *Potters Corner*.

Later in the afternoon, Bowen, riding his father Peter Bowen's *Cougar's Gold,* a 17-2 chance, won the handicap hurdle race while earlier in the day Adam Wedge had taken the Novices' Handicap Chase on the Emma Lavelle-trained *De Rasher Counter*.

DEBRA'S NEAR MISS

Carmarthenshire trainer Debra Hamer came close to saddling her biggest winner yet when her nine-year-old *ToBeFair* failed by just a neck to catch the Irish-trained *Sire Du Berlais* in the Pertemps Network Final Handicap Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival meeting on Thursday, March 14.

The pub syndicate horse, a 40-1 chance, partnered by Tom Bellamy, earned his connections £21,270 for his late effort compared to the £56,270 which went to the winner, who was ridden by Barry Geraghty.

Debra's husband Paul is a former Welsh champion point-to-point rider and like Debra hails from the Bridgend area.

Charlie Price, a leading Arabian horse racing jockey, who rides out for Vale trainer Tim Vaughan, landed the Conditional Jockeys' Mares Handicap Hurdle at Hexham on the Tom Symonds-trained *Llantara*.

Meanwhile the Brecon and Talybont Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Llanfrynach were rained off and they will now take place on Saturday, March 23.

ANOTHER WINNER FOR CONNOR

There's no stopping the Vale's Connor Brace.

At Market Rasen on Thursday, March 14, the seven pound-claiming jockey who has been in such good form of late and who is attached to Ben Pauling's Cotswold yard riding his guvnor's *Big Difference*, a 13-2 chance, in the handicap hurdle beat the odds-on favourite *Jurys Out* by two-and-a-half lengths.

CHRISTIAN'S DOUBLE

Ogmore-by-Sea's Christian Williams had plenty to smile about at Fakenham on Friday, March 15.

His six-year-old old *Cap Du Nord*, the youngest horse in the Fakenham Staff Fundraising Run For Air Ambulance Handicap Chase, made it three wins on the bounce when coming home four lengths ahead of *Nobel Leader* and later in the afternoon his *Sideways*, at eight the youngest of the five runners in the Prince Carlton Handicap Chase, beat the Peter Bowen-trained *Henryville*.

Both winner's were ridden by Peter Bowen's son James Bowen, who in the following ToteExacta Fakenham Silver Cup Handicap Hurdle was successful on the Richard Spencer -trained *ThisTimeNextYear*.

LAST DAY IS FIRST

Vale trainer Evan Williams had several fancied runners at rained-off Ffos Las on Sunday but *The Last Day,* the only horse he had entered at far flung Carlisle, landed the Racing TV.Com Novices' Chase under stable jockey Adam Wedge.

Runner-up in its previous two starts, seven-year-old *The Last Day* was made the 4-9 favourite in a field of just four runners and won easily by eight lengths from *Trongate,* ridden by Ross Chapman.

DANIEL'S WINNER

Daniel Ellis, aged 14, from the Vale, riding his six-year-old bay mare *O'Flynn's Daughter,* won the mile pony race at the Dart Vale & Haldon Harriers Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Buckfastleigh last Sunday, where Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft won the open maiden race division one on the 5-2 joint favourite *Matts Legacy.*

However, in the men's open race, Byron's mount *Spencer Moon*, the odds-on favourite, led until the third last fence, only to be overtaken by *Whenharrymetsally* ridden by Matt Hampton and was beaten a length.

TIM'S 20-1 WINNER

***Adherence*, who was racing in public for the first time in 361 days, landed the Cornish Rock Gin RNLI Handicap Hurdle at Taunton for Aberthin's Tim Vaughan on Tuesday, March 19.**

The six-year-old gelding , a 20-1 shot, was partnered by James Best and won by three parts of a length from the bottom weighted *Menapian*.

League title hopes dented as Barry Town United slip to home loss

BARRY Town United's JD Welsh Premier League chances suffered another setback on Saturday, this time at the hands of battling Bala Town, as the title outsiders slipped to a second straight defeat on a windy afternoon at Jenner Park.

Saturday's clash was the second attempt at fulfilling this fixture in the space of five weeks, after the initial game on February 9 fell victim to floodlight failure, unceremoniously cutting short S4C's live coverage in unexpected style.

However, there would be no repeat of the off-field controversy that curtailed that evening, nor of the handball hijinks that decided Bala's preceding visit.

Instead Colin Caton's visitors, on a six-match winless run, left Jenner Park with their heads held high, his Lakesiders recording a first Welsh Premier League victory since Boxing Day's 2-1 triumph against Connah's Quay Nomads, a result that notably helped Barry wrap up 2018 on top of the national division.

Now, Gavin Chesterfield's third-placed team are without a win of their own in five and left looking over their shoulder, though fourth-placed Newtown's 2-0 defeat at Connah's Quay on Friday evening ensured the Robins remain six points adrift of Barry and a potential Europa League spot at the international break.

As matters stand, a third-placed finish would secure automatic qualification for the preliminary stages, pending either of the top two winning the JD Welsh Cup.

After early defensive difficulties had blighted the previous weekend's trip to Latham Park, Chesterfield recalled Lewis Cosslett for Saturday's battle with Bala, the tenured centre-back making a first appearance of 2019 after injury.

Unfortunately, Barry's trend of conceding before the break reared its ugly head once more, as former Bolton Wanderers and Bradford City man Andrew Burns fired into the net on 32 minutes, after the hosts were unable to clear from a corner.

A motivated Bala had already posed a threat to Barry's goal via Wales C international Chris Venables and almost scored when Henry Jones' hit from long range came back off the bar, before Mike Hayes forced a save out of namesake Mike Lewis.

The second half spawned attempts from both men, while the announcement of Wales' Grand Slam victory elicited one of the few cheers of the day from the home fans.

After Clayton Green's long-distance effort was held by Bala goalkeeper Ashley Morris, the Lakesiders found themselves with a golden chance to settle things from the spot, as Barry defender Luke Cooper was penalised for fouling Hayes.

While the decision was the subject of hot debate, the outcome proved definitive, as the established and prolific Venables drove his effort into the Barry net to double the visitors' advantage, with only 15 minutes remaining.

The introduction of Louis Gerrard and Sam Snaith proved a last roll of the dice, yet despite a penalty shout for Gerrard and two late opportunities for newcomer Snaith, it was Bala who came closest to adding to their tally, as Jones hit the post and the venerable Venables struck the woodwork twice in the closing stages.

Bala's 2-0 win sees them climb to 38 points, behind Caernarfon on 40, Newtown on 43, Barry on 46 and The New Saints on 56, while Connah's Quay now lead the pack again with 48 points, as champions TNS were without a fixture this past weekend.

Barry's defeat was just their third at home in the JD Welsh Premier League since October 2017, with only Bala and TNS winning at Jenner Park in those 17 months.

What may be of more concern is that Saturday saw Barry's lowest home attendance of the entire season, although head-to-head scheduling with the concluding part of the Wales vs Ireland international certainly did this 4pm fixture no favours.

A healthier turnout is anticipated for this coming Saturday, March 23, when Barry welcome the league's best-supported club, Caernarfon Town, to Jenner Park.

The Canaries have recorded a host of four-figure crowds of late and took over 1,000 supporters to neighbouring Bangor City in the JD Welsh Cup Fourth Round.

Though fewer members of the Cofi Army are expected to make the long journey to Barry, a decent number should be in store for this traditional 2.30pm kick-off.

Meanwhile, anticipation continues to build for the 2018-19 JD Welsh Cup semi-finals and the first-ever semi-final meeting between Barry and The New Saints.

The one-off tie, Barry's first at this stage since 2013, will take place at Newtown's neutral Latham Park on Saturday, March 30, kicking off at 7.30pm.

AC

SIX NATIONS 2019

WALES 25 IRELAND 7

Roles are reversed as Wales shut the door on Irish dreams and claim the Grand Slam

RIGHT:
The champagne corks have popped, and it's time for Wales to celebrate a Grand Slam.

Match report by Philip Irwin.
Photographs by the Huw Evans Agency.

WALES versus Ireland with a Grand Slam at stake is as big as it gets in the Principality Stadium, but this was also a game between two New Zealanders who have made a massive mark on the northern hemisphere.

For Warren Gatland and for Joe Schmidt it was their final Six Nations game and both, of course, are former Leinster coaches.

However, despite those similarities, you could never mistake a Gatland team for a Schmidt one, and over the last few years, the force has definitely been with the Ireland coach.

Until Saturday, when the Irish possession-based game stuttered and stumbled.

Wales got off to the best possible start when they kicked off high and long and George North forced his opposite number into touch. From the line-out Wales attacked and won a penalty and outside half Gareth Anscombe used that penalty advantage to conjure an exquisite chip, with the outside of his foot, to deceive the defence and all centre Hadleigh Parkes had to do was catch it. The conversion made it 7 - 0 and the match was barely two minutes old.

When Wales played England, there was a moment when Parkes was horribly exposed by Jonny May's pace, and I remember talking to friends and wondering if his time in international rugby might be up.

A man-of-the-match performance in Scotland put paid to that idea, and he gave another example of how crucial he is just four minutes later. Ireland were awarded a penalty, and Jonny Sexton cross kicked for the formidable Jacob Stockdale, who caught it, slipped his man and looked to be in the clear for an equalising try.

In the clear until Parkes, showing that anticipation and acceleration is different from straight line speed, produced a magnificent cover tackle.

The penalty that led to the cross kick could have had other consequences for Wales. Chasing an Anscombe kick, Josh Adams slid in and, realising that the defender was going to evade him, raised his foot just enough to make contact and trip him.

It could well have been a yellow (or even a red in the view of a pedantic ref) but he got away with it. The Australian referee, Angus Gardner, is one of the new breed of young (just 35) and pragmatic refs who seem to want to help the game flow, and he was smart and relaxed all the way through, and not afraid to change his mind if he spotted something on the TV replay.

On the 10-minute mark, George North went off with a hand injury, and the reshuffle saw Anscombe move to full back, Liam Williams go on North's wing, and Dan Biggar take over at outside half.

In theory, there was potential for disruption, but everything continued smoothly.

In fact, one of Warren Gatland's many achievements has been to take the heat out of the traditional Welsh outside half debate. Over the years, it has been a toxic problem, with the crowd getting too partisan by half. Rhys Priestland was the last outside half to suffer but, at long last, the general view seems to be that "Warren knows best".

After 17 minutes, Wales were awarded a penalty 49 metres out, which seemed a touch outside of Anscombe's range but he took it and produced a magnificent kick to make it 10 - 0. Bigger's left leg was heavily strapped, so perhaps that was a factor in the decision. Whatever the reason, as the match progressed it turned out to be an inspired one.

Ireland were departing from their traditional game plan and from the next kick off, they were penalised again, until Gareth Davies started a scuffle by tackling Bundee Aki on the ground, prompting referee Gardner to reverse the penalty.

That penalty took Ireland into the Wales 22, where they were awarded another penalty. Sexton chose to pass up the three points, opting to kick for the corner and, hindsight being a wonderful thing, he might have been better to get some points on the board.

Wales held the drive and, as has been the case all season, Shaun Edwards' defensive curtain did the rest.

The attack petered out when CJ Stander fumbled, prompting Eddie Butler to remark to Jamie Heaslip: "Slippery ball, Jamie, perhaps you should have had the roof shut."

The game continued to go against expectations. Ireland messed up a line out, Wales stole the ball and Alun Wyn Jones went on a charge, and Ireland were penalised. This kick was from 43 metres, but once again Anscombe kicked the goal.

Four minutes before half time, referee Gardner reversed his call of a knock on, saying simply "I got the call wrong". The Irish were none too happy that Wales now had the put in, and they were even less happy when they were penalised at the scrum, giving Anscombe the chance to take the score to 16 - 0, from 25 metres this time.

Oh to have been a fly on the wall for Joe Schmidt's half time talk. He has built a side designed to take control of a game and squeeze the life out of the opposition. Chasing a game is not their strength.

The old joke (possibly Irish?) applies. It's the one where a man stops his car to ask for directions and receives the response: "Ah well, sir, if I were you, I wouldn't start from here!"

At the start of the second half, the rain came down heavier, and after six minutes, prop Cian Healy was penalised, a touch harshly, for a no arms tackle and Anscombe kicked the penalty once again, making it 19 - 0. The Irish plan had presumably used the phrase "we need to score first" so for Welsh fans, it was (almost) time to relax and enjoy the occasion.

From the restart, Sexton kicked long. Too long. Jonathan Davies was able to smile as he watched it roll dead.

From the scrum at half way, Gareth Davies took advantage of a solid platform to make a break into the Irish half and, although they turned the ball over, the green shirts could make no progress at all, and Conor Murray was forced to kick for touch.

At that lineout, Ireland were penalised again and Anscombe, this time from 45 metres, punished them again.

From then on, although the rugby was still intense, it was a case of watching the clock. When there were 20 minutes left, Ireland needed 23 points to get back, and that looked impossible. Every two minutes that passed just emphasised the margin.

What's more, Ireland continued to make errors. The TMO, Marius Jonker, had a quiet day, but he was called in to rule whether Keith Earls had slipped up and carried the ball over his line when he was seeking to minor it.

He had, and Wales were happy for the five-metre scrum to be reset about three times, watching the clock keep on ticking.

Ireland cleared their lines and applied some pressure but, on 68 minutes, Sexton uncharacteristically lost possession, prompting Josh Adams to make a good break. Ireland were penalised at the ruck, and Anscombe made it seven out of seven, a 20-point haul, and took the score to 25 - 0.

It was no surprise that he took the man of the match award, although Alun Wyn Jones, and the entire Welsh back row of Moriarty, Tipuric and Navidi must have been contenders.

It is noticeable that, under Shaun Edwards' defensive masterplan, the back row stay on for almost all of the match, only being replaced when the game is safe.

The final few minutes passed with only one question. Could Ireland get a consolation score?

One suspects that a certain former Wigan scrum half was burning to record a clean sheet, but finally Ireland did put together a long, error-free passage of play, and substitute Jordan Larmour was able to use some quick footwork to cross for a try that was converted by another sub, Jack Carty.

This Six Nations performance will send Wales off to the World Cup in good heart. Who wants to make predictions? These days, rugby has such a high attrition rate when it comes to injuries that predictions are difficult, but Wales do have strength in depth. In many ways, Scotland's has been the best performance, given the number of injuries they picked up during the competition.

After the game, Warren Gatland couldn't resist the line "Did we look tired?" grinning from ear to ear. Perhaps it was Eddie Jones' England who were tired.

Philip Irwin

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